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Gulf Conflict

Iraqi Air Attacks—Iraqi war communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced a new wave of Iraqi raids on Iranian shipping and land targets over the weekend. Five strikes were made against maritime targets, while land targets included an engineering factory near Ahvaz, the Ahvaz radio station, a "Hawk" missile battery, and various oil installations. A sixth attack on a maritime target was announced in a statement cited by INA the evening of 27 September. The agency also noted reports from London that the Cypriot-registered tanker *Coral Cape* was hit twice and disabled in the Iraqi raids. Nicosia radio confirmed that the ship was hit after having loaded with oil at Khark Island, adding that an Iranian tanker was also hit near Khark. Another victim of the Iraqi attacks was a small Panamanian-flagged tanker, according to shipping sources cited by AFP.

Ten people were killed in the Iraqi air raids on Khuzestan 26 September, Tehran radio reported. The radio also stated that two Iraqi planes were shot down in the Gulf region 27 September, but this claim was denied by an Iraqi spokesman who told INA that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base that day. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA announced that Iranian planes bombed an Iraqi radar station in northern Iraq 26 September in retaliation for the Iraqi raids. Iran also continued to shell Basra and other Iraqi cities 25-27 September, killing 12 people, according to Iraqi communiques carried by Baghdad radio.

Iranian Policy—Only after the Iraqi Government is identified as the aggressor and is punished for attacking Iran will the latter agree to a negotiated settlement of the war, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in an interview reported by IRNA 28 September. In his remarks, which were made to British television and published by *Jomhuri-Ye Eslami*, the speaker reaffirmed Iran's willingness to allow an international tribunal to decide the form and manner of punishment, though he acknowledged that Iraq is unlikely to accept a tribunal which is acceptable to Iran. Tehran radio earlier reported an address by the Majlis speaker to Iraqi Islamic revolutionaries in which he stated that Iran is "firm in its resolve not to halt its holy war until the Iraqi people are delivered from Saddam." Such direct calls for the Iraqi leader's overthrow have been largely absent from public declarations of Iranian war aims in recent weeks.

Among other Iranian statements on war policy, President 'Ali Khamene'i told worshippers during his Friday sermon that he had been instructed by Ayatollah Khomeyni to tell the Iranian people that Iran "will not compromise in any way with global arrogance," Tehran radio reported. Khomeyni has also stressed the need to punish the aggressor and to reply to U.S. "mischiefs" in the Gulf, the president added.

Iraqi Policy—Radio Monte Carlo cited an interview with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz in which he said he recently told his Soviet counterpart that Iraq "rejects the Soviet proposal" to link a cease-fire with the formation of an inquiry commission to determine which side started the conflict. He also criticized "some" UN Security Council members for failing to admit that Iran has rejected Resolution 598 and for wanting to give Iran "more time than necessary." Earlier, Voice of the Masses radio broadcast the text of the foreign minister's 25 September address to the UN General Assembly, in which he gave a detailed account of why Iraq holds Iran responsible for starting the war.

Iranian Military Capability—Iran has fixed "a new weapon" to its F-14's which has greatly increased that aircraft's "combat power," an Iranian Air Force commander stated in remarks cited by Tehran radio 26 September. Earlier, an IRGC officer announced in an interview with the radio that IRGC industries are manufacturing an aircraft which will begin test flights in coming months.

Return of 'Iran-Ajr' Crew—Crew members of the *Iran Ajr* claimed in interviews reported by Tehran radio and IRNA after their return to Iran that they were maltreated during their period of imprisonment by the U.S. Navy. One man said the Americans had offered to grant them political asylum for "propaganda purposes," but this met with a "negative response" from the Iranians. As for the U.S. scuttling of the *Iran Ajr*, President Khamene'i viewed the move as an act of "piracy," and he accused the United States of "erasing all traces of its crime," according to IRNA.

Iran

Car Bomb in Tehran—An "informed source" charged that "agents of international arrogance" were responsible for a car bomb that caused "minor damage" in Tehran 26 September, IRNA reported.

Khomeyni's Health—In response to a *L'Express* disclosure that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni is suffering from a brain tumor and that Austrian internist Dr Karl Fellinger has been contacted regarding possible surgery in November, the physician cautioned against taking the report "all too seriously," *Wiener Zeitung* noted 26 September.

Drug Smugglers Executed—Ten persons convicted of smuggling drugs were executed 26 September, Tehran radio announced.

Iraq

Denial of Syrian Contacts—A "responsible Iraqi source" denied rumors that preparations for a meeting between President Saddam Husayn and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad are underway, according to an *Al-Thawrah* report cited by INA 28 September.

Cabinet Changes—President Husayn witnessed the swearing-in of Hikmat 'Umar Mukhaylif as finance minister and 'Abd al-Tawwab 'Abdallah al-Mullahuwaysh as heavy industries minister, INA reported 26 September.

Israel

Peres-Khamene'i Meeting Denied—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry denied an *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* report that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Iranian President Khamene'i held a 3-hour meeting in New York under the protection of U.S. security guards, Jerusalem radio reported 27 September. According to IDF radio, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office termed the Kuwaiti report "not even worthy of comment." For Iran's part, IRNA denounced reports of the meeting as "poisonous propaganda" which is attempting to counter the "very positive impression" left by media coverage of Khamene'i's activities at the United Nations.

Peres-Shevardnadze Talks—The prime minister's office "expressed satisfaction" that Foreign Minister Peres briefed Shamir on his UN talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, IDF radio reported 27 September. The office also praised Peres for the balanced way he presented the issue of convening an international conference on the Middle East. Regarding further details of the bilateral consultations in New York, *Hadashot* reported that Peres rejected a Soviet proposal to open an interests office in Tel Aviv. Representation at less that the embassy level would be "offensive" to Israel, Peres reportedly responded.

Suspect's House Demolished—Security forces destroyed the Janin home of Ahmad Hajj Mitzna', who is accused of having murdered an IDF reservist, Jerusalem radio reported 26 September.

Tunisia

Seven of the 90 defendants accused of conspiring to overthrow the Tunisian Government were sentenced to death by hanging 27 September, Tunis radio announced. Five of those who received the death penalty were sentenced in absentia. According to KUNA, the seven sentenced to be hung were convicted of involvement in the August explosions at tourist hotels in Munastir and Susah. Islamic Tendency Movement leader Rashid Ghannoushi and another man were sentenced to "life imprisonment with hard labor," Tunis radio noted. Of the remaining defendants, 14 were acquitted and released, and 67 were sentenced to prison terms of 2 to 20 years.

In response to the judgment, Islamic Jihad threatened to launch an "assassination campaign" against the Tunisian Government if the death sentences are carried out, AFP reported. The warning, which was delivered to a Western news agency in Beirut, was "authenticated" with a photograph of U.S. hostage Terry Anderson.

Libya

Ties With Syria—Libya and Syria have agreed to boycott the emergency Arab summit to be held in Amman if the agenda is limited to discussion of the Iran-Iraq war and does not include "all issues of interest to the Arab nation," JANA reported 27 September. The announcement followed a brief visit by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Chief of Staff General Hikmat al-Shihabi. According to Damascus radio, Khaddam was received by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to whom he delivered a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

In a 26 September statement to the UAE paper *Al-Khalij* reported by WAKH, Col al-Qadhdhafi said he is "surprised" that Arabs would call a summit that does not discuss all the issues. The Libyan leader noted that Iran has "responded positively" to his proposal for ending the war, and he urged Arab countries to "compensate" both Iran and Iraq for their war losses. Al-Qadhdhafi also welcomed Jordan's decision to restore relations with Libya.

Chadian Criticism of OAU—A commentary broadcast on Ndjamena radio 26 September criticized the OAU ad hoc committee on the Libya-Chad conflict for having made an "additional concession" to Al-Qadhdhafi and called on Chadian "patriots" to rally around FANT for the "final victory."

Sudan

Relations With Libya—Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, arrived in Khartoum 27 September for consultations, JANA reported. In remarks to the press cited by SUNA, Acting Foreign Minister Adam Madibu stressed that the Sudan is "neutral" in the Libya-Chad conflict and hopes that the situation can be resolved peacefully.

Relief Agencies Closed—Three Western relief agencies have been declared non grata and ordered to leave the country within 3 weeks, SUNA reported 26 September. The organizations were accused of carrying out activities detrimental to state security. In a related development, the Foreign Ministry termed "unfounded" reports that all foreign cultural centers are to be closed and that the number of diplomats working in foreign embassies is to be reduced, SUNA also noted.

Algeria

An agreement outlining the guidelines for economic and trade cooperation with the USSR was signed 26 September by Finance Minister Abdelaziz Khellef and Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Algiers radio reported. The agreement will allow some Algerian products to enter Soviet markets for the first time, the radio noted.

YAR-PDRY

Salim Salih Muhammad, YSP assistant secretary general, told a rally celebrating the 25th anniversary of North Yemen's 26 September Revolution that the two states

should concentrate on "practical steps" toward unity, Aden radio reported 25 September. Among the international figures who arrived to participate in the festivities were Djibouti President Hassan Couled Aptidon and PDRE President Mengistu Haile Miriam, Sanaa radio reported. YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the PDRE president held "extensive" talks on bilateral friendship and current world issues, Addis Ababa radio noted.

Saudi Arabia

A "reponsible source" denied as "baseless" press reports citing *Washington Post* reporter Bob Woodward's information that Saudi intelligence was involved in schemes to assassinate Lebanese Hizballah leader Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah as well as to aid Chad and others, SPA reported 27 September. Such stories only advance the objective of those whose "enmity toward the Arab and Islamic nation is well known," the source declared. A statement distributed by Shaykh Fadlallah's office denounced the "cheap allegations" against Hizballah as an attempt to "distort" his organization's position, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Oman

Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id welcomed Jordanian King Husayn 27 September, WAKH reported, noting that the king's visit falls within the framework of consultations in preparation for an Arab summit scheduled for 8 November.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Husayn-Al-Asad Talks 'Not Completely Successful'

JN271752 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1740 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Dubayy, 27 Sep (WAM)—In a report from the Jordanian capital, *Al-Bayan* has said that King Husayn of Jordan's talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the latter's agreement to attend the emergency Arab summit in Amman were not completely successful. Citing informed circles, the paper explained that Al-Asad still insists on adding new clauses to the agenda of the emergency summit in addition to the Iraq-Iran war.

Klibi Praises Jordan Restoring Ties With Libya

JN251532 Doha QNA in Arabic 1354 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Tunis, 25 Sep (QNA)—Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has described Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Libya as an important step on the road to Arab solidarity, without which the Arab nation will never be able to cope with the great challenges facing it.

In a cable to His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan, broadcast here today, Klibi expressed satisfaction with the thaw that will be brought about in the Arab atmosphere by this step. Klibi also expressed hope that the coming Amman summit will be a complete success.

Jordan decided to restore its diplomatic relations with Libya on 23 September, Wednesday, in an effort to help bring about further improvement in Arab relations before the convening of the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman on 8 November.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Cited on Arab Summit, Gulf Issues

JN270833 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0709 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Sep (WAKH)—PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has categorically denied reports that he asked Zionist Knesset Member Charlie Biton to convey a message containing a Palestinian plan for the settlement of the Palestine question to the Israeli leadership.

In a statement appearing in today's issue of the Abu Dhabi *Al-Ittihad* newspaper, 'Arafat said that he had briefed the Israeli Knesset member, whom he received among 70 other figures at the international conference on the Palestinian question recently held in Geneva, on the PLO's ideas with regard to peace efforts. He urged Israeli society to pressure its leadership to adopt the peace option.

The Palestinian leader described Egypt's stand toward the international conference as good and very close to that of the Palestinians. He added that he will submit a plan to the extraordinary Arab summit which calls for compliance with the Arab Fes peace plan and which reiterates that Peres' settlement plan is no more than a second Camp David, a plan totally rejected by Egypt.

'Arafat affirmed that the PLO has agreed with Amal leader Nabih Birri's initiative to settle the camps war. However, he added that he believes that some groups within Amal reject all agreements.

'Arafat is expected to visit Moscow in October; namely, before the convening of the Soviet-U.S. summit to discuss with Soviet officials the prospects for convening an international conference to settle the Palestinian queston. He also expected that Syrian-Palestinian relations would improve after an agreement was reached with the Amal Movement to settle the camps war.

'Arafat reiterated his appeal to the Iranian leadership to end the Iraq-Iran war. He said that he had sent a message to the religious seminary in Qom 2 months ago warning against the possibility of a buildup of foreign fleets in the Gulf if the war with Iraq continued. He added that his expectations have materialzed. He reiterated that this war has greatly harmed all Arab and Islamic issues and causes.

'Arafat Meets Soviet, PRC Envoys in Tunis

JN241849 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] During his separate meetings with the Soviet and PRC ambassadors to Tunisia in Tunis yesterday, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, discussed the latest developments of the Palestinian question on the Arab and international levels, the endeavors being exerted to convene an international Middle East peace conference, and the Zionist aggression against the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon.

WAFA, the Palestinian news agency, said that during this meeting, the PRC ambassador had reiterated his country's support for the idea of convening a UN-sponsored international Mideast peace conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, as well as all parties to the conflict, including the PLO, which must be invited to the conference as a basic party on an equal footing with the others as it is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Cypriot President Receives 'Arafat Envoy

JN251947 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1810 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou yesterday received Brother Abu Khalid, personal envoy of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], accompanied by Al-Haj Talal, the PLO representative in Nicosia. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian question on all levels, as well as bilateral

relations and ways to promote them in the interests of the Palestinian and Cypriot peoples. Abu Khalid highly praised the firm support of the Cypriot people and Government for our people's just struggle under the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, to regain their full legitimate national rights.

PLO's Khalaf on Israeli-Iranian 'Deal'

PM241013 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Sep 87 p 1

[Unattributed report on telephone interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, also identified by his nom de guerre Abu Iyad, in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] London, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* Bureau—The PLO has confirmed that it is in possession of information and documents concerning the transfer of Iranian Jews to occupied Palestine via various states under a deal agreed between Israel and certain Iranian elements. In a telephone interview from his residence in Tunis with *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* in London, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) stated that the Palestinian leadership has received information on this matter from the occupied territories and that PLO organs in the states involved in this deal have confirmed this. He added that the PLO has sufficient evidence.

Regarding the Turkish denial of this news, Abu Iyad said that the Jews crossed Turkish territory as ordinary citizens with Iranian citizenship.

Khalaf revealed that contacts between the United States and Iran to secure the release of U.S. hostages are still continuing. He noted that a deal is being prepared and that the latest meeting with regard to this was held the day before yesterday in the Beau Rivage Hotel in Beirut between some Hizballah leaders and the Syrian intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kan'an, to discuss some details.

With regard to the PLO position toward the emergency summit to be convened in Amman and its agenda, Abu Iyad said: The two important points which will be high on the agenda are the issue of the Gulf war, its developments and consequent threats to Kuwait, and the holy Mecca incidents, which we consider to be an expansion of the war, and the danger of this to the entire Arab region. We in the PLO consider these to be important topics. The second point is the discussion of the overriding issue; that is, the Palestinian problem. The question of Egypt's return to the Arab arena will also be seriously discussed this time.

The Palestinian official talked about the Sidon agreement concerning the camps issue. He said that the PLO deals with the agreement sincerely, "but it seems that there are some parties whose concern is to hamper it." He asserted that the agreement, which was concluded in Sidon between the resistance and the Amal Movement under the sponsorship of brothers in the Unification and Liberation Front and the Syrian brothers, stipulated that supplies and construction materials enter the camps and their vicinity from 13 September through 15 October and that this should be followed by the withdrawal of the Palestinian revolution forces from east Sidon. Until yesterday this agreement was still not being implemented by the [Amal] Movement on the grounds that it has problems.

Abu Iyad added: During the meetings, we expressed readiness to construct the camps and the areas around them. We are still committed to the agreement. We consider the 22-day period for the delivery of supplies and construction materials the period after which our forces in east Sidon will be withdrawn. We concentrate on the positiveness of the initiative and view it seriously.

Asked whether the improvement in the relationship between the Amal Movement and the PLO is the beginning of an improvement in Syrian-PLO relations, Abu Iyad affirmed: We do not link one issue to the other; however, the Syrian issue has been on our agenda for some time. We have always extended our hands to our brothers in Syria to improve relations. Perhaps the next Arab summit will be an opportunity to open a new chapter—not only between the PLO and Syria, but among all Arabs of different inclinations.

PLO Spokesman on Closure of U.S. Office

PM251557 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 23-29 Sep 87 p 11

[Interview with Hasan 'Abd al-Rahman, the PLO representative in Washington, by Muhammad 'Ali Salih in Washington; date not given]

[Text] [Salih] What does the closure of the [PLO] office mean to you?

['Abd al-Rahman] I will continue activities to serve the Palestinian cause by any means allowed to me. The closure of this office does not mean that I will give up my job. Alternative means must be found.

[Salih] What does the closure of the office mean to the PLO?

['Abd al-Rahman] The Palestinian cause is no longer a prisoner locked in a dark room. It has circulated and spread. It now has supporters throughout the world. In fact, such decisions in the end will result in more widespread support and expedite victory for the cause. The PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, moves daily from one victory to another. Anyhow, the office will continue its duties.

[Salih] Until when?

['Abd al-Rahman] The decision calls for the closure of the office in a month. We will continue our duties pending the results of legal efforts against this decision.

[Salih] How will you counter the decision legally?

['Abd al-Rahman] Obviously the PLO office represents a foreign body in the United States. It is registered as a foreign organization. However, legal organizations and many jurists in the United States see that the decision violates the right of U.S. citizens under the Constitution to hear various viewpoints. Among such organizations is the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), which has declared that it will challenge the decision and place all of its capabilities at our disposal.

[Salih] What about Arab-American organizations?

['Abd al-Rahman] They also have declared their readiness to participate, not only in legal procedures, but in enlightening U.S. public opinion and playing a public relations role to inform U.S. citizens that their constitutional rights are in danger as long as the government can take haphazard measures to silence voices that differ with it.

[Salih] The government decision was preceded by a draft decision prepared by the Congress. This draft decision considers the PLO to be a terrorist organization threatening U.S. security interests and orders the closure of all its offices in the United States. Which of the two decisions is more harmful?

['Abd al-Rahman] The first decision was the initial step toward the second. The State Department's claim that its decision was made to replace the decision by Congress is a false one. Anyhow, both decisions are illegal.

[Salih] What does the timing of the closure decision mean? In other words, why has the decision now been issued?

['Abd al-Rahman] These are political efforts revealing hostility toward the PLO in both their timing and content. They are part of the bargaining process pursued by U.S. politicians.

[Salih] And why more than a year before the presidential elections?

['Abd al-Rahman] The presidential election campaign has already begun.

[Salih] Have some Jewish writers and commentators written articles in papers against the decision to close the office?

['Abd al-Rahman] Yes. But they are a minority.

[Salih] How do you expect the Arab states to react?

['Abd al-Rahman] By considering the decision to be a hostile action against the Palestinian people and the other Arab peoples; by considering it to be a slight to the Arabs and their claims and aspirations; and by considering it to be further evidence that the United States can take any measure against Arab interests without harming itself. Therefore, if the Arabs want to gain the respect they deserve, they must respond in an appropriate manner.

[Salih] And what is the appropriate manner?

['Abd al-Rahman] They know what it is; and, if they want, they can embark on it.

Chad

Bardai, Wour, Zouar Overflown 24, 25 Sep

AB251814 Paris AFP in French 1755 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Paris, 25 Sep (AFP)—The Libyan Air Force overflew Chadian territory yesterday and today, Chad's Embassy in Paris claimed. The Libyan aircraft overflew Bardai yesterday and Wour and Zouar today. All three localities are situated in the Tibesti mountain range in northern Chad. The embassy condemned these "violations" of Chadian airspace which are "in defiance of the cease-fire and the recommendations of the OAU ad hoc committee" that just met in Lusaka.

Lusaka Meet Termed 'Concession' to Libya

AB262125 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] After thorough analysis, the result of the Lusaka conference was nothing more than an additional concession made to Al-Qadhdhafi, who remains determined not to accept any injunctions. [Words indistinct] to those who, despite all that took place, gave a last chance to the international terrorist prior to the final verdict—that is, his condemnation—which indeed the martyred Chadian people have so far been craving for. What did Al-Qadhdhafi do to deserve and obtain this concession from the [OAU] ad hoc committee in Lusaka? The presence of his foreign affairs minister, which put an end to the Libyan policy of absenteeism, cannot wipe away the contempt in which Al-Qadhdhafi holds Africans and their leaders by obstinately, and with exaggerated arrogance, refusing to make the slightest concession, even that of attending the session with other heads of state.

Now, how can he make people forget about their contempt? Certainly not by [words indistinct] as his African counterparts have asked him to do. In fact, Al-Qadhdhafi is trumpeting for support from Arabs and all his terrorist accomplices for his unprecedented war efforts in Libya. While buying some with money, selling his illusions to others, and harping on the Arabs' racist cords like [words indistinct], Al-Qadhdhafi uses his flute [words indistinct] in diabolical and frantic maneuvers aimed at resuming the war; that is, the Libyan Air Force's daily violation of the cease-fire, the senseless recruiting of units of mercenaries and others forcibly conscripted, as well as the supply of weapons, ammunition, food, and so on. All this is a clear indication of Al-Qadhdhafi's intentions.

A final communique was issued in Lusaka [words indistinct]. Even though Al-Qadhdhafi has crumpled it up, (?its text) has effectively reached him. This is why you, Chadian patriots—who love freedom—have nothing else to do than close your ranks around the FANT for the final victory. So, let us take up our arms!

Nigeria Commission Meeting Ends 24 Sep

AB262107 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The Chad-Nigeria Joint Cooperation Commission session ended on Thursday [24 September] following 4 days of deliberations. The meeting, which took place at the Foreign Ministry's conference room, was presided over jointly by Major General Gado Nasko, Nigeria's minister of agriculture and rural development, and Kassire Coumakoye, Chadian minister of public works, housing, and town planning. A final communique was issued at the talks' conclusion. It was read by [name indistinct]:

[Begin recording] During the session, the Nigerian minister held a series of talks with the minister of planning and cooperation. Their talks, held in an atmosphere of deep friendship and brotherhood that characterizes relations between Chad and Nigeria, enabled the two sides to examine ways and methods of promoting bilateral cooperation and tackling African and international issues. The Chadian minister of planning and cooperation and Maj Gen Nasko expressed their pleasure over the excellent relations between their two countries and reiterated their governments' political will to strengthen, intensify, and diversify their cooperation in all fields. Both sides agreed on the need to coordinate their actions to better serve the aims and principles of the OAU, to which their two countries are attached. They also reiterated their commitment to do everything to strengthen the continental organization that constitutes the framework for common action and African solidarity.

As for the situation prevailing in southern Africa, the two parties strongly condemned the racial discrimination and the inhuman policies of the Pretoria racist regime. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Egypt

Reportage on Visit by French Prime Minister

Arrives in Cairo

LD261758 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac arrived in Cairo this afternoon. Tomorrow he is due to open the first African underground railway, the Egyptian subway, which was built by a consortium of 17 French companies. The cost of the work totalled Fr6 billion.

On Debt Rescheduling

NC271215 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA)—French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has stressed that the agreement signed between Egypt and France on 8 September permits the two parties to negotiate a new financial protocol every year that would take Egypt's financial position and its

development needs into consideration. Chirac disclosed that according to this protocol the French Treasury will greatly increase the loans extended to Egypt.

In an interview to be published in tomorrow's edition of *Al-Akhbar*, Chirac added that following the rescheduling of debts, France will invest around 1 billion francs in Egyptian projects. These projects will be defined during the negotiations on the protocol to be held within the next few weeks. He said that France will be allowed to make a large number of these investments on easy and beneficial terms. Prime Minister Chirac also revealed that he has requested that a large grant be allocated to finance feasibility studies for joint hotel projects.

The French prime minister stressed that the agreement to reschedule debts was not part of the agreement to reschedule Egypt's military debts. The latter was signed on 20 August and resulted in the dispatch of the remaining Mirage-2000 planes to Egypt. Chirac praised the high standard of the Egyptian military industry and the technological level it has attained with the help of French cooperation. He did not rule out the production of modern French military equipment in Egypt in the future as this interests industrialists in both countries.

In his interview Chirac said that the idea of an international conference for peace in the Middle East has been generally accepted. He added that the French Government hopes to see quick progress toward the convocation of such a conference, which, in its view, is the most [word indistinct] way toward a peaceful settlement in the region. He noted that the international community's interest is now more focused on the situation in the Gulf. He added in this connection that the diplomatic efforts being undertaken to put an end to that conflict have overshadowed the consultations taking place on the conference.

With regard to its naval units in the Gulf, the French prime minister said that France has sent a number of naval units to the region in consultation with those Arab countries in the area that are interested in maintaining security in the Gulf. Chirac said that this presence is a response to what these countries expect of France. He added that these units have been tasked with patrolling the Gulf to safeguard the French presence, help remove mines found in the navigation lanes, and support the aircraft carrier accompanying them.

Chirac warned the two warring parties in the Gulf war against attacking a state not involved in the conflict. He said France is aware of its responsibilities as a permanent Security Council member. The French prime minister stressed that France will continue to act firmly to put an end to this conflict and to reach a comprehensive solution. He called for the immediate implementation of Security Council Resolution 598.

Regarding the Chadian-Libyan conflict, the French prime minister said that France recognizes only Chad's legitimate government, whose legitimacy was recognized by the international community. He stressed that the French forces in Chad were sent at the request of the legitimate authorities there and emphasized that their role is purely defensive. He disclosed that France's aim is to settle that conflict for good. The French prime minister said that France is happy that the cease-fire effected between Libya and Chad at the OAU's request is being respected. Chirac added that this agreement should be followed by other steps, either through direct understanding between the two parties or through mediation to reach a peaceful solution to the Aozou border problem.

Received by Mubarak

NC271306 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac at the Presidential Palace in Heliopolis this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi. The president then hosted a luncheon in honor of Chirac that was attended by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, the deputy prime ministers, and a number of other ministers.

Holds News Conference

NC271901 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and the delegation accompanying him left Cairo for home this evening after a 2-day visit to Egypt during which Chirac was received by President Husni Mubarak. Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi and several other ministers headed the list of those who saw Chirac off at Cairo Airport.

Before leaving Cairo, Jacques Chirac held a news conference at the airport. He said that Egypt deserved the confidence and respect of the whole world after courageously and realistically confronting its economic crisis in a manner enabling it to regain its economic health. This has been confirmed to me by the prime ministers with whom I have met in recent weeks, he said.

Chirac described Egyptian-French relations as excellent and satisfactory to both countries. He noted that the economic and financial agreements that regulate these relations are free of any problems. He said that the two countries have been holding constant discussions on various foreign policy issues.

The French prime minister pointed out that his brief visit to Cairo on the occasion of the inauguration of the subway was a manifestation of the warm fraternal relations which are becoming stronger all the time, thanks to the Egyptian Government's efforts under the leadership of President Husni Mubarak.

The French prime minister said at his news conference that a financial protocol will be signed between Egypt and France in October. The protocol will provide for

French funding of Egyptian development projects, both short-and long-term, to be increased. He stated that in the next few days an agreement will be signed with the Egyptian telecommunications authority. As a result of this, the authority will benefit from French expertise in ommunications and in constructing telephone exchanges. The French prime minister added that an agreement was signed with the Egyptian Electricity Ministry yesterday concerning the fifth Abu Qir electric power station. An agreement was also finally concluded for the construction of a cement factory in Al-Minya, the preparatory study for which was completed 2 years ago, and for the Al-Buhayrah water station project. This is in addition to other future protocols.

Chirac emphasized that these agreements confirm the depth of cooperation between the two countries. They are also an indication of the confidence that the Western industrial states have in the economic and financial conditions in Egypt, as well as in the wise policy that Egypt is following in order to rectify its economic course.

Referring to his discussions in Cairo, Jacques Chirac said that his talks with President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi dealt with economic conditions. They also concerned the financial agreements between the two countries following the signing of the Paris Club agreement and of the debt rescheduling agreement. Chirac added that a number of projects constituting part of the cooperation arrangements between the two countries were discussed. Consultations on international affairs and East-West relations also took place. He pointed out that the two countries' views were identical on the Middle East problem and the Palestinian question and on the need for an international conference based on the UN resolutions. This, he added, is also the view upheld by the EC states.

Chirac went on: The discussions also showed that the views of both countries are identical on the detestable war in the Gulf, on the Lebanese crisis, and on the problems of Africa, particularly the question of Chad. Referring to the French presence in the Gulf, Chirac said that French naval units are in position around the Gulf and that they use Djibouti as a base for repairs and supplies if necessary.

The French prime minister expressed his pleasure at and support for the agreement on limiting short-range nuclear missiles, which is being currently discussed by the United States and the Soviet Union. He said that his country is happy with anything that will lessen and defuse tension. It favors pursuing disarmament and believes that the Soviet and U.S. strategic arsenals, which contain 12,000 nuclear warheads between them, should be reduced, he stated. He also demanded an end to the use of chemical weapons both in the East and in the West.

Concerning relations between Cairo and Paris, Chirac said that in his capacity as the mayor of Paris, which is linked with Cairo by a friendship agreement, he visits Cairo every 2 years. Chirac expressed his astonishment at the continuous dazzling improvement in cleanliness, equipment, and traffic he notices whenever he visits Cairo. This, he said, makes the city's governor the Baron Haussmann of Cairo, Haussmann being the man who in the middle of the 19th century turned Paris into a city responding to the requirements of the modern age. Chirac voiced his gratitude for the efforts of the Cairo governor to promote relations between his city and Paris. He also said he hoped that the excellent relations between the Egyptian and French capitals would continue to grow.

In conclusion, Chirac referred to the existing cooperation between Egypt and France in various technical, administrative, and cultural fields. He said France is happy to give Egypt aid amounting to 1 million francs, to be earmarked for medical, humanitarian, and social services.

Leaves Cairo

LD272258 Paris Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Jacques Chirac left Cairo this evening following a 24-hour visit during which—I remind you—with the Egyptian president he opened the city subway which was constructed with French cooperation. On this occasion, the French prime minister had several discussions with his Egyptian counterpart, 'Atif Sidqi, and President Mubarak. These discussions tackled, of course, economic cooperation between the two countries, as well as the international situation.

Ministers Arrive for Subway Inauguration

Djibouti Minister Arrives

NC251717 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Sep (MENA)—Mr Yusuf Ali Shirdon, minister of interior, transportation, and communications in Djibouti [title as received], arrived in Cairo today on a 2-day visit. During his stay in Egypt, he will attend the inauguration of the subway, which is scheduled for Sunday. He was received at the airport by Major General Husni Farraj, assistant interior minister.

Mubarak Meets With Ministers

NC271951 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has met with Arab and African ministers of transportation who were present at the inauguration of the subway this morning. The meeting, which took place at the presidential headquarters this evening, was attended by Eng Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transportation and communications, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs and first under secretary at the Foreign ministry.

Saudi Minister Arrives

NC261858 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1845 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA)—Saudi Communications Minister Al-Shaykh Husayn al-Mansuri arrived in Cairo tonight. His visit, which is expected to last several days, is in response to an invitation from Transportation Minister Eng Sulayman Mutawalli. During his stay, the Saudi minister will attend the celebrations marking the opening of Cairo's subway system.

Interior Minister Warns of Terrorist Acts

NC280702 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr has warned that some parties might execute actions designed to harm Egyptian security. He said that Egyptian security authorities possess information regarding a plan prepared by a terrorist group based in Munich to carry out operations against Egypt in cooperation with Iran.

'Abd al-Majid Meets PLO's Qaddumi in New York

NC271949 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1818 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] New York, 27 Sep (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, in New York today. The meeting was part of Egypt's diplomatic efforts connected with the Palestinian issue and the holding of an international conference for Middle East peace. The meeting was also a continuation of the consultations held lately between Egypt and the PLO in Addis Ababa and Cairo to coordinate positions in the international arena. The two officials reviewed various developments concerning the Palestinian issue, the international conference, and ways to promote peace efforts.

Mubarak's Accomplishments Praised at NDP Rally

NC251433 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] In a public rally held at NDP Headquarters in Alexandria, the citizens of Alexandria voiced their support for the renomination of President Mubarak for a second term of office. The rally was attended by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture; and the ministers of housing, local government, administrative development, industry, manpower and training, education, and health.

Dr 'Atif Sidqi addressed the rally, saying that all Egyptians support the renomination of President Mubarak for a second term of office and that this support stems from the many values and principles he has inculcated. Foremost of these, the prime minister added, are a total belief in social justice and the conviction that democracy is the ideal political system. The prime minister affirmed that increased agricultural and industrial production is the only way to raise the citizens' living standards and to correct the general budget's disorder and the balance of payments. It also provides the means for adopting an explicit export policy after the people's requirements have been met. Dr Sidqi went on to say that Egypt has great potential for increasing production. He noted that President Mubarak believes in individual initiative with regard to increased production but, at the same time, believes in supporting the public sector. The prime minister declared that electric power will reach Egyptian villages next year. [sentence as heard] He concluded by saying that it was President Mubarak who laid down the policy of radically dealing with problems without resorting to stop-gap measures.

Dr Yusuf Wali also spoke at the rally, noting the accomplishments during the first 5-year plan and during President Mubarak's first term as president.

Omani Plan on Relations With Cairo Outlined

NC252124 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2031 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Sep (MENA)—'Ali Salim Badr al-Hana'i, former Omani ambassador to Washington who has been transferred to Cairo, has revealed that an Omani initiative proposing the resumption of Egyptian-Arab relations will be submitted to the Arab summit conference due to be held in Amman on 8 November. The new Omani envoy, who will arrive in Cairo next Wednesday, has told the newspaper *Al-Ahram*, in a statement to be published in its Saturday edition, that it appears that the Omani initiative enjoys strong backing by other Gulf countries.

Commenting on Oman's return of Iran's POW's and dead in the wake of the attack carried out by a U.S. helicopter on a mine-laying Iranian vessel in the Gulf, Al-Hana'i said that contacts have already started with Iran so that it would receive the POW's and dead soldiers. He added that Washington had asked Oman to cooperate with the Red Cross in carrying out this task and Oman had responded for humanitarian reasons.

He noted that Oman has already expressed the willingness to perform any task that would end the current situation in the Gulf, saying: We are against any conflict in the region and always seek to keep the Gulf secure and peaceful. The conflict must be resolved by peaceful means, he said.

Awqaf Head Says Country Applying Shari'ah Law

NC251523 Cairo MENA in English 1455 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Asyut, Upper Egypt, 25 Sep (MENA)—Awqaf Minister Dr Muhammad 'Ali Mahjub said that Egypt was applying shari'ah (Islamic) law and that 95 per cent of the articles of the civil law concerning business dealings conformed with the rules of shari'ah. True Islamic principles were observed and applied in Egypt under the guidance of Al-Azhar, he said. The minister

was speaking at a symposium at the town of Manfalut, in the Upper Egyptian Governorate of Asyut last night. He said the government encouraged Islamic banks and fund employment companies. The authorities were only trying to lay down rules for the operation of these organisations, he said.

Pentagon Asks To Station U.S. Troops on Suez

NC281232 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 24 Sep 87 pp 1, 9

[Text] Cairo—*Al-Safir*—The U.S. military attache in Cairo delivered an urgent message to the Secretariat of the Egyptian Cabinet on Tuesday, 2 days ago. The Pentagon had sent a message requesting permission for what it described as an "airborne unit" from the 77th Group [as published] of the U.S. Delta Force to be stationed for purposes of rapid deployment on the eastern border of the Al-Suways Governorate, overlooking the Gulf of Suez. The force's assignment would be both to prepare for intervention in the Gulf should the situation there deteriorate and to beef up U.S. military presence in the area.

The Pentagon message also requested that the Egyptian Government answer the message the same day so that the paratroopers could be transferred to Egypt from NATO bases once Egyptian approval was received. The message added that a U.S. aircraft carrier would be put at the disposal of the paratroopers and that it would arrive in Port Said within 2 days and then pass through the Suez Canal to Al-Suways, where the paratroopers would be stationed. Reliable sources in Cairo have pointed out that a mini-Cabinet meeting was urgently held at noon the day before yesterday, attended only by the prime minister and four other ministers, including the defense minister, to examine the U.S. request. The sources went on to say that the U.S. request is likely to be accepted. Evidence of this, the sources added, is that the meeting had lasted for only 1 hour, after which no decision was announced.

In another development, *Al-Safir* has learned that Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will hand President Ronald Reagan a message today, Tuesday, from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Another message to President Reagan was sent 2 days ago through diplomatic channels. In the first message the Egyptian political leadership appeals to the U.S. Administration to adopt self-restraint in the Gulf and expresses concern over a possible flare-up in the Gulf war in wake of the unprecedented military confrontation between the United States and Iran on Monday.

Al-Safir has also learned that the second message, which was sent through diplomatic channels and which is expected to be delivered to President Reagan today along with the first, expresses the Egyptian leadership's desire not to get directly involved in the Gulf war. The message requested that the operations of the paratroopers in the Al-Suways Governorate be confined to routine training procedures without turning the Al-Suways area into a bridgehead from which U.S. troops would be sent to the Gulf. This would make certain that no other force could intervene in the area, which could possibly lead to an internationalization of the conflict.

AL-WAFD Notes Deal To Refuel Soviet Warships

PM251549 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 21 Sep 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egypt Agrees To Provision Soviet Warships"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has learned that Egypt has agreed in principle to refuel Soviet warships at Egyptian ports in addition to providing essential supplies. The Soviet Union has recently asked Egypt to provide facilities for warships at Mediterranean and Red Sea Egyptian ports.

Paper on Discovery of 'Secret' Army Group

NC270909 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Citing reliable Egyptian sources, the newspaper *Al-Safir* has reported that Egyptian Army Chief of Staff Ibrahim al-'Urabi ordered the arrest of members of a secret organization within Egyptian Army ranks last month. This was carried out in total secrecy. So far, 68 Egyptian Army officers have been arrested. The sources add that Al-'Urabi has ordered the dismissal of four officers of the rank of major general and of three others with the rank of brigadier general.

The sources also note that the Egyptian Interior Ministry is currently considering a decision to ban Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir, son of late President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, and a number of leaders of the Nasirite Socialist Arab Party from traveling abroad. This is being considered on the grounds that their names surfaced during the interrogation of suspects in the case of Egypt's Revolution [Thawrat Misr] Organization. Some of the suspects were arrested last week. The interrogation is being conducted by the Supreme State Prosecution Office in Cairo.

The sources have reported that Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr has submitted a report to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on this matter in order to facilitate a decision from Mubarak to ban Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir from traveling outside Egypt.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi on Gulf War, Syrian Ties

LD281025 Kuwait KUNA in English 0838 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Sharjah, Sept 28 (KUNA)—Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was quoted as saying in an interview Monday that "it is really difficult to determine who was responsible for the eruption of the Iraq-Iran war."

Al-Qadhdhafi, who was speaking to *Al-Khalij* newspaper said that the information he has do not allow him to give a definite answer on the side which began the war.

He explained saying that the Iraqis say that Iran had started the war by the explosions that took place in Iraqi installations, while the Iranians deny their responsibility for those incidents.

The Libyan leader, whose country backed Iran in the early stage of the war, then recently resumed contacts and ties with Iraq, expressed belief that a decisive victory in the Gulf war is impossible, and stressed that this war should be immediately stopped.

On the plan recently presented by the Libyan side to the Iraqi and Iranian leaderships to stop the war, Al-Qadhdhafi disclosed that it stipulates for immediate ceasefire, paying compensations to both Iraq and Iran by the Arab countries and then comes the step of deciding the side which began the war.

On the forthcoming extraordinary Arab summit conference, scheduled to be held in Amman November 8, the Libyan leader said "I am astonished for holding an extraordinary summit...seven years have passed for the Iraq-Iran war until now...and despite the importance of the subject which the summit is due to deal with, but I am with holding a summit that discusses all Arab issues." [as received]

Al-Qadhdhafi said both Iraq and Iran are entangled in that war and added that "there is a conspiracy against the Arab nation that is carried out by the Western imperialist forces and the Zionists."

He expressed belief that "the Iranian revolution has become a ring in the chain of that conspiracy against the will of the good brothers in the Iranian revolution."

He further said that "in every revolution, there is a counter-revolution...and there are Iranian forces which maintain contact with the imperialism and Zionism...and the war is in interest of those forces which want to destroy the Arabs and the Iranian revolution as well."

Answering a question on whether Libya is making efforts to improve Syrian-Libyan relations, Al-Qadhdhafi said "We do not seek to improve the relations between Iraq and Syria [as received], but to declare a unity between the two countries."

He admitted, however, that there are great differences in viewpoints between the two countries and obstinacy on both sides in addition to lack of trust.

Al-Qadhdhafi Summit Stand 'Same as Syria's'

JN260921 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 26 Sep (WAKH)—Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has stated that his country's stand concerning the upcoming emergency Arab summit is the same as Syria's, which calls for adding other Arab issues to the summit's agenda. Today Al-Qadhdhafi informed *Al-Khalij* in a statement to be published tomorrow that he does not belittle the issue—the Iraq-Iran war—to be discussed by the summit. However, he noted he is surprised that the Arabs insist on convening an emergency summit that does not discuss all issues in the Arab arena.

The Libyan leader welcomed Jordan's decision to restore relations with Libya. He said that Jordan severed relations with his country but is now restoring these relations. Libya welcomes this decision, Al-Qadhdhafi added.

In excerpts from his statement to *Al-Khalij*, Al-Qadhdhafi noted that he prepared a plan to end the Iraq-Iran war and that Iran responded positively to it. However, he did not discuss details of this plan. He called on the Arab countries to compensate Iraq and Iran for their losses in the war and added that the war was planned to exhaust the two Islamic countries' potentials.

Attendance Conditions Noted

LD271802 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1740 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Sep (JANA)—JANA has learned that an agreement was reached yesterday during the visit of Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, vice president of the Syrian Arab Republic, to the Great Jamahiriyah concerning both the Great Jamahiriyah's and Syria's rejection of attending the Arab summit—proposed be held in Amman—should the agenda be confined to one topic: the Iran-Iraq war.

JANA has also learned that during this visit it was emphasized that the summit conference should discuss all issues of interest to the Arab nation, as well as the dangers threatening it on occasions.

JANA Editor on U.S. Sinking of Iranian Ship

LD261620 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] The U.S. fleet anchored in the Arab Gulf carried out another act of aggression yesterday against the civilian vessel previously bombed by aircraft of the U.S. fleet in the same area 2 days ago.

A U.S. Defense Department spokesman boasted that the vessel was strapped with explosives and blown up by the U.S. naval forces, thereby destroying and sinking it.

In an act of muscle-flexing, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger declared while overhead one of the U.S. warships anchored in the Arab Gulf that the United States had decided to sink the Iranian vessel. This followed the U.S. Congress' adopting a piracy law permitting the U.S. fleet to intercept Iranian ships.

JANA's international affairs editor commented on this by saying that the world will not applaud the Yankees, who possess might but not ethics. He asked: What can the earth's inhabitants expect from these Yankees other than this kind of behavior toward small nations? If this

aggressive act has any consequences, he stated, it will be further hatred by all the world's peoples for the American satan and the outpouring of curses on all those who shake hands with it and who support it.

The U.S. Senate approved a law authorizing U.S. naval forces to attack any Iranian vessel. This is a consolidation of terrorism and proves again that the U.S. Administration has officially adopted a policy of state terrorism in dealing with the world.

The promulgation by the so-called U.S. Congress of a law permitting international piracy constitutes an act of flagrant defiance of international society, thus once again exposing the grave dimensions and imperialist intentions inherent in the U.S.-NATO concentration in the Arab Gulf region.

Chad Termed French Colony, Not Sovereign
LD251432 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Sep (JANA)—In the past few days, the world's information media have carried repeated statements by French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond concerning the Aozou oasis. The French minister's statement at the UN General Assembly has also centered on the same topic.

JANA's international affairs editor has commented on these statements, stating that they completely contradict statements made by the French president to many African heads of state and to the Arab League secretary general claiming that Aozou is undoubtedly a Libyan Arab oasis.

Jean-Bernard Raimond's speech at the UN General Assembly affirmed that he was speaking as a Chadian foreign minister and as a Chadian spokesman, thus exposing France's stand to the entire international public opinion. It also proved that Chad is a French colony, directly attached to France like the other French colonies: Martinique, Reunion, New Caledonia, and its other colonies.

The editor added that Raimond's statement emphasized that Chad is a French colony, and not an independent state, and that it does not enjoy sovereignty. Consequently, we advise the ad hoc committee [on the Chad-Libya border conflict] formed by the OAU to negotiate with France since it is the true owner of Chad. This committee's members should meet with President Mitterrand and his foreign minister, and France should occupy the seat allocated to Chad at the United Nations.

The JANA editor spoke of the insolence of French foreign policy and France's constant interference among neighbors aimed at creating problems and border disputes, as well as its poking its nose in every big and small matter in Africa, appointing itself a custodian of the African countries, and then falsely claiming it is working to solve the African Continent's problems. France's policy, he stated, exemplifies the policy of a murderer who kills and then walks in the funeral procession of his victim.

In conclusion, the JANA international affairs editor affirmed that the hand that is extended toward Africa with a view to destroying it must be cut. This also applies to the nose that is stuck into the continent's problems. Just as the old hag Britain was forced to pack up and go, so too will France be expelled by the struggle of the African peoples—and there will be no returning.

Representative Addresses UN Body 25 Sep
LD262035 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1820 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] New York, 26 Sep (JANA)—The Great Jamahiriyah's permanent representative to the United Nations stressed that Libya, which fought against fascism and which gave half of its people in defense of its land and waters, has not and never will concede an inch of its territory under any circumstances whatsoever.

He stressed in a speech to the UN General Assembly yesterday evening that the tragedy of the Arab Palestinian people is to be found in the alliance between imperialism and the heir of colonialism—international Zionism, aimed at eliminating the Palestinian people. He explained that the United Nations was used as a tool to legitimize the aggressor and to deprive the victims of all their rights.

He pointed out that the Palestinian people have been and still are being liquidated, and that their camps have been and still are being destroyed by U.S. weapons that have been and still are being used by the Zionist forces. These weapons were supplied by U.S. imperialism, which announced a strategic alliance with the Zionist racist enemy.

He stated that the international body is morally responsible for the creation of the Zionist racist entity in Arab Palestine and should rectify this historical mistake.

The Great Jamahiriyah's permanent representative pointed out to the General Assembly's members the need to implement economic sanctions against the apartheid regime in South Africa in order to force it to submit to the will of the international community. He stressed that the continuous subjection of millions of blacks in South Africa and Namibia to oppression and the deprivation of their rights is a mark of shame in the contemporary history of mankind.

He stated that the imperialist countries' direct support is the main cause for the continuation of the South African regime's apartheid policy. They also create obstacles that hinder Namibia's independence, which must be carried out quickly and without any delay on the basis of UN Resolution No 435.

The permanent representative discussed the vicious campaign by the United States against small and peaceful nations. He noted that many people in all parts of the world have been and are being subjected to this imperialist campaign either directly or indirectly, as was the

case with Vietnam and Grenada. Similarly, the Great Jamahiriyah was subjected to blatant and direct U.S. imperialist aggression from the north and is now being subjected to the same aggression from the south.

He said France's military intervention in and direct occupation of Chad constitutes a provocation, one that is harmful to the security of the Great Jamahiriyah. We have no choice but to draw the attention of the world and the international community to the dangers of French military's intervention, occupation, and presence on the African Continent.

The Great Jamahiriyah's permanent representative ridiculed the French foreign minister's boast concerning France's responsibility in this context. He asked: What is this responsibility mentioned by the French minister? Is it the responsibility of a wolf toward his victim or the responsibility of a master toward those he wants to continue to ensalve? The representative added: By what right is France interfering in Africa? He stated that the age when colonialism used a big stick has gone and will not return. Algeria is no longer French; Vietnam is no longer French; and Libya is no longer a part of the fascist empire. The epoch of agreements among colonialist and fascist regimes to divide peoples is gone and will not return.

The permanent representative stressed that the Great Jamahiriyah believes in the inevitability of the triumph of peoples, despite all the tragedies and calamities to which humanity is subjected. He declared that the existence of such a large number of member countries in the United Nations that have struggled in the past against colonialism and now are struggling against imperialism is a clear indication that history does not unfold backwards. The world is now aware more than ever before of the colonialist schemes and imperialist plots and intrigues.

Lebanon's Junblatt Begins Visit 27 Sep

LD280805 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Brother Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, and his delegation arrived this evening in Tripoli on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Palestinian Muragha

LD271231 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1145 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Sep (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution has received Brother Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], secretary general of the Palestinian National Liberation Movement Fatah. [title as received]

Syrian Vice President Arrives for Talks

Met by Jallud

LD261313 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Syrian Vice President Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tripoli this afternoon. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud welcomed Brother Khaddam upon his arrival at Tripoli International Airport. He was also welcomed by a number of officers from the Libyan Armed Forces as well as by the chairman and members of the Great Jamahiriyah's Arab-Syrian relations committee.

Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam made a statement to JANA in which he noted: You are aware of the dangerous situation the Arab nation is facing and also of the challenges it is facing. There is a need for consultations and an exchange of views between the Arab Libyan and Syrian leaderships. President Hafiz al-Asad has asked me to come to Tripoli to discuss issues of common interest and the Arab situation from all its angles.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD261750 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The brother leader of the revolution has received Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, and Lieutenant General Hikmat al-Shihabi, the Syrian Arab Republic's chief of staff. Both visitors handed the brother leader a message from President Hafiz al-Asad. [passage omitted]

Delegation Departs 26 Sep

LD261913 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1808 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Sep (JANA) — Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, vice president of the Syrian Arab Republic, and his accompanying delegation departed Tripoli this evening following a brief visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud was among those who saw Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam off at Tripoli International Airport. A number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces and the chairman and members of the Great Jamahiriyah's Syrian-Arab relations bureau [as received] were also in attendance.

Mauritania

Ministers Leave for Senegal, Ivory Coast

LD261208 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Major Mohamed Lemine Ould N'diayane, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, left Nouakchott this evening for Dakar. The minister is

carrying a letter from Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, for Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

Minister of Information Mohamed Haibetna Ould Sidi Haiba left the capitol this evening for Abidjan with a letter for the Ivory Coast president from the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, Col Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya.

Foreign Minister N'diayane Leaves for UN Session
AB280930 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Mohamed Lemine Ould N'diayane left Nouakchott yesterday for New York where he will take part in the 42d session of the UN General Assembly, which opened on 20 September.

Morocco

Romanian Prime Minister Continues Visit

Signs Economic Agreement
LD261046 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] This evening at the prime minister's office, Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki, and Romanian Prime Minister Dr Constantin Dascalescu, who is currently on an official visit to Morocco heading an important delegation, signed a long-term economic and technical cooperation agreement between Morocco and the Socialist Republic of Romania. They also signed the minutes of the meetings which took place between the Romanian delegation and Moroccan officials.

On this occasion, Dr Azzedine Laraki delivered a speech in which he underlined the importance of signing this agreement, which includes general directives aimed at consolidating and developing cooperation between Morocco and Romania in all spheres.

Dr Azzedine Laraki underlined the positive results which have stemmed from the visit by the Romanian delegation to Morocco and its talks with Moroccan officials. He stressed that the two sides wish to continue and consolidate their bilateral cooperation in all spheres according to the wishes of the leaders of the two countries, His Majesty King Hassan II and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Departs Rabat 26 Sep
LD262107 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the socialist Government of Romania, left Morocco this afternoon after an official visit to our country. Highlights of the visit were his reception by His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, and the talks he held with Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki. Another highlight of the Romanian prime minister's 3-day visit was the signing of a long-term agreement on economic and technical cooperation between Morocco and Romania. [passage omitted]

Officials View Ibrahimi Statement on Sahara
LD261336 Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Rabat, Sept 26 (MAP)—The UN secretary general announced Thursday in New York he has decided to dispatch a technical mission to the Western Sahara in the few coming weeks. Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Taleb Ibrahimi currently in Paris voiced the reaction of his country saying the mission "will formulate propositions for the withdrawal of the Moroccan Army and administration from the territory". Moroccan milieus close to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Morocco has agreed to the secretary general's initiative and welcomes the decision announced Thursday.

Commenting on statements by the Algerian head of diplomacy, the same milieus specified that the goal of the mission as stated in the official communique of the United Nations consists in "gathering technical information and data only available on the territory to enable the secretary general and the OAU chairman to come up with an easier bid to reach a cease-fire and hold a referendum".

Ibrahim's statements are in utter contradiction with the content of the decision circulated by the UN, these milieus said.

BRIEFS

New Weekly Newspaper Published

A new weekly newspaper, *Al-'Usbu al-Sahafi* appeared in Rabat today. It will present selected material that has appeared in the press. The new paper is published by journalist Mustapha Alaoui, [name as received] who has published a number of other newspapers. The first issue of this Arabic-language newspaper contains many reports and excerpts from materials published in Arab and Moroccan newspapers and magazines. [Excerpts] *[Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Sep 87 LD]*

Sudan

Parties Agree on Coalition, Portfolios
JN271107 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1027 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Sep (SUNA)—The Al-Ummah Party and the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP] have agreed to restore their coalition, despite the differences in the platforms and outlooks of the various parties, which had made the formation of a national government impossible.

The above is reported by the independent newspaper, *Al-Ayyam*, in its issue today. The paper states that the agreement between the two parties provides for changing

the number of State Council members from five to three. *Al-Ayyam*also reports that consequently, the Constitution will be amended, the present members will submit their resignations to the Constituent Assembly, and elections for the State Council will be held.

Al-Ayyam adds that it was also agreed that the government will consist of 20 ministers; 9 from the Al-Ummah Party, 7 from the DUP, 3 southerners, and 1 from the National [Islamic] Front. The distribution of government portfolios between the two big parties will remain the same as at present, with the exception of the Ministries of Finance and Information. The two big parties may exchange these portfolios.

Closure of Cultural Centers Denied by Ministry

JN261508 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Sep (SUNA)—The Foreign Ministry denied today that all foreign cultural centers in Sudan are to be closed, as had been reported by some local papers. The ministry stressed that this report is unfounded, as the State has not issued any decision dealing with the activities of foreign cultural centers.

The ministry also denied the reported reduction in the number of diplomats working in the embassies accredited in Khartoum.

The referent papers reported the day before yesterday, that the Council of Ministers had decided to not allow foreign embassies to open cultural centers and to close all existing cultural centers because of security reasons, since the activities of some embassies do not conform to diplomatic norms. They also added that the Council had decided to cut down the number of employees in the accredited embassies to equal the number of employees at Sudan's embassies abroad.

'Reaffirmed' by Newspaper

JN271134 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sept. 27 (SUNA)—A Sudanese daily has reaffirmed once again news reports it published last Tuesday in which it said the government has decided to close down all cultural centers in the country and to reduce the number of diplomats and personnel working in some embassies here.

The independent daily (*Al-Ayyam*) has asserted today that a decision in this regard was taken by the Council of Ministers, though it (the decision) was not made public.

Al-Ayyam, the only paper to report the controversial issue, has stressed that it has "a lot of information" about the decision and other details which it "will not publish in view of the national intersts".

It is to be recalled that the Foreign Ministry yesterday issued a statement refuting the news report and describing it as "unfounded" and that the Council of Ministers has never "issued" such a decision.

Three Relief Organizations Ordered To Leave

JN261849 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sept—26—(SUNA)—The Sudanese Government has declared three organizations working in the relief field as non grata and ordered them to leave the country within three weeks starting as from today.

The three relief organizations ACROS [expansion unknown], World Vision and Lutheran [as received] have been accused of carrying activities damaging to the security of the country.

The Sudanese Deputy Attorney General Mr. 'Umar Ibrahim Husayn pointed in a press statement today that the move has not been dictated by any political motivations as circulated by Western medias.

He pinpointed that the government was responding to recommendations submitted by a committee designated to review the activities of the organizations operating in the relief and rehabilitation fields.

He said committee has found out that all relief organizations are working in line with their status except the three organizations ordered to leave the country, the deputy attorney general said.

The Sudanese attorney general indicated that there are sixty-two relief organizations currently working in the Sudan and that even others have asked to be permitted start operations in the Sudan.

That number is quite sufficient for facing the current situation in the Sudan, he said, adding that "the government has no adequate equipment and personnel to follow up the activities of all these organizations." The measure taken (against the three organizations) does not mean shutting the door before the organizations who submitted their application or those wishing to work in the Sudan, he allowed.

He further indicated that religion has nothing to do with the expulsion of these organizations.

Ninety percent of the relief organizations currently operating in the Sudan are Christian ones, he argued.

He went on to pinpoint that one major Islamic organization the Islamic Al-Da'wa organization has been denied to work in the country.

This is to refute allegations by Western media that the expulsion is religiously-oriented, asserted. [as received]

Meanwhile a partisan daily newspaper today reported that the United States was hardly pressing the Sudanese Government to re-post 16 (sixteen) Western relief organizations expelled from the Sudan for [words indistinct] them to operate in the Sudan.

Al-Rayah the mouth piece of the Islamic National Front quoted its sources as saying that the U.S. ambassador to Sudan has earlier conferred with Sudanese Foreign Ministry undersecretary and told him about the U.S. intention to halt American assistance to Sudan "in case Sudan

denies these organizations to re-enter and work in the country".

The paper asserted that the Sudanese Foreign Ministry official has promised to reconsider the return of the organizations.

A relief and rehabilitation source has in a statement to another daily *Al-Sudani*, hailed the government's move of expelling these agencies which have been working in western and southern Sudan.

The source told *Al-Sudani* that these organizations have leapt beyond the boundries of their prescribed missions.

The sources was quoted as saying that these relief bodies have over dramatized the Al-Ddein [name as received] incidents "western Sudan" in which hundreds of Dinka people were said to have been massacred by the Rizygatt (Arab) tribesmen.

They (the expelled organizations) have in many cases bypassed indications put forward by the (Sudanese) authorities, the source said.

Neutrality Affirmed on Chad-Libya Conflict

JN271310 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Sep (SUNA)—Acting Foreign Minister Adam Madibu has affirmed that Sudan is taking a neutral position on the Libya-Chad conflict. He added that Sudan's efforts aim to narrow the two countries' viewpoints in order to solve the conflict peacefully through mediation.

The acting foreign minister was quoted today in the newspaper, *Al-Jadidah*, as saying that the prime minister's remarks concerning the Aozou Strip dealt only with the historical and legal aspects of the conflict.

In another development, Madibu denied that Sudan was pressured by the U.S. Government to bring back the relief organizations, whose activities the government has suspended. He affirmed that, in principle, Sudan rejects any pressure or interference with its decision making.

The newspaper *Al-Rayah*, organ of the National Islamic Front, has said that the Sudanese Government was pressured by the U.S. Government to bring back 16 relief organizations whose activities had been recently halted by the Sudanese Government.

SPLA Radio Reports Military Action

34 Killed in Kwajok Area

EA262123 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Thirty-four enemy soldiers have been killed and 41 others were injured in an ambush recently by combined SPLA forces of Bee and Fire Battalions under the direct command of 1st Lieutenant (Deng Song Jok) and overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Chuol Ayuwak at (Lil Magach) near the Kwajok area. The enemy also suffered widespread damages in material.

A correspondent for the radio SPLA in the area says that three lorries of the enemy loaded with food and military supplies were all destroyed in the ambush. [passage omitted]

Clash at Umm Dawmayn

EA251626 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Latuka 1100 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Excerpt] SPLA units of the Volcano Battalion, under the direct command of Captain 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Hilwu and the overall command of Major Yusuf Kuwah Makki, clashed with enemy troops on 11 September, 1987. The troops were trying to recapture Umm Dawmayn, which SPLA forces had taken from Sadiq's forces last month. Two enemy soldiers were killed and several were seriously injured. The remainder retreated to (Regazi). [passage omitted]

Tunisia

Islamic Tendency Movement Trial Ends

LD271208 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Early this morning, the State Security Court, chaired by Mr Hachemi Zammel, held a public session with the attendance of 53 defendants arrested in the case of the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement, their lawyers, and representatives of national and foreign media.

The State Security Court sentenced, in their presence, Mehrez Boudegga and Boulbaba Dkhil to death by hanging, and Alioua Abid, Hamadi Djbali, Salal Kerker, Abdelmajid Mili and Fethi Maatouq, in absentia, to death by hanging.

The court sentenced Rashid Ghannoushi and Fadil Baldi to life imprisonment with hard labor.

The rest of the defendants were given sentences ranging from 2 years to 20 years with hard labor.

The court dismissed the case against and released 14 defendants.

Court Sentences 7 to Death

LD271025 Kuwait KUNA in English 0819 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Tunis, Sept 27 (KUNA)—The Tunisian State Security Court Sunday sentenced seven members of the fundamentalist Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI) to death after being accused of conspiring to overthrow the regime and to set up an Islamic state with the Iranian help.

The court also sentenced the leader of the MTI Rashid Ghannoushi to life imprisonment with hard labor.

The Tunisian prosecution had demanded the death sentence for all the 90 accused, of whom 40 are still at large.

Five of the men sentenced to death were tried in absentia. Other verdicts ranging from two to 20 years imprisonment with labor were passed on other accused, while 13 of them were acquitted.

The seven who were sentenced to death were accused of involvement in the explosions that took place in Tunisian hotels in Sousse and Monastir last month that injured 10 British and Italian tourists.

The MTI denied that the explosions were carried out by its members and denied any connection with them.

The MTI is the strongest Islamic group in Tunisia and is said to have ties with the Islamic Brotherhood Group.

Several leaders of the MTI were arrested and imprisoned in 1981 but were released by a pardon from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba in 1984.

Tunis Lists Sentences

LD271026 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] At dawn today the State Security Court, chaired by Hashemi Zammel, concluded the case of the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement by issuing its sentences after 36 hours of deliberations. The defendants were charged with committing crimes of aggression aimed at changing the state regime; inciting the populace to attack each other using weapons; inciting murder; contacting a foreign country and elements living abroad; fighting public authorities; collecting weapons; establishing an illegal organization; defaming public order and official organizations; defaming the head of state and government members; spreading false information which would lead to disturbing the regime; calling for murder; and fighting the regime.

After calling the defendants and reading the declaratory part of the judgment, the court issued the following sentences:

—death by hanging for Mehrez Boudegga and Boulbaba Dkhil;

—death by hanging, in absentia, for Alioua Abid, Hamadi Djbali, Salah Kerker, Abdelmajid Mili, and Fethi Maatouq;

—life, hard labor for Rashid Ghannoushi;

—life, hard labor, in absentia, for Fadil Baldi;

—20 years, hard labor for Slaheddine Tlili, in absentia for Walid Benani, Mohamed Traboulsi, Amid Garoui, Alias (Khlil), Mohamed Chemam, Ziad Doulatli, Habib Moukni, Mohamed Chemli, Mohamed Hashemi Hami, and Abderraouf Boulaabi;

—15 years, hard labor for Mebrouk Zren, Salah Dridi, Mohamed Sidki Abidi, Jamaleddine Gouadir, Mohamed Akrout, Mohamed Ben Nijma, Abdelkrim Abbashi, 'Abdallah Zouari, Salah Khalfalli, Hedi Breiq, and Mohamed Galoui;

—15 years, hard labor, in absentia, for Basha Bouacida and Mohamed Khdiri;

—12 years, hard labor for 'Ali Besasi Ben 'Ali Belhaj;

—10 years, hard labor for Benaisa Demni, 'Ali Nouir, Hafiz Asouad, Kamal Ben Ramdan, Lezhar Meqdad, Tahar Houfni, Toumi Mansouri, [name indistinct], Ferhat Ben Khidr, Hedi Haj, Mohamed Ben Fqih, Mohamed Cherada, Faouzi Sarraj, Fethi Jebrane, Bouabdella Bouabdella, and Sadiq Sghiri;

—10 years, hard labor, in absentia, for Abdelfetah Mourou, Salah Boughani, Moncef Ben Salem, Abdelmedjid Zar, Khmaeis Majri, Jamal Aoui, Sahnoun Jouhri, Najib Mrad, Abdelkader Jdidi, Mohamed Aoun, Lazher Abab, Chokri Bahria, Abdelraouf Majri, Hassouna Maili, Kraeim Harouni, Ajmi Ourimi, and Mohamed Salal Bouallaf;

—7 years, hard labor for Kout Mounir Boudari, Mouncef Boughatas, Douneil Zarrouq, and Kamel Hajjem;

—5 years, hard labor for Mohamed Hedi Zamzami and Abdellatif Traboulsi;

—5 years imprisonment, in absentia, for Ali Bousrour and Abdelmajid Najjar;

—2 years imprisonment and a 1,000 Tunisian dinars fine, with a suspension of physical punishment for Mohamed Nasir Triqi.

The State Security Court dismissed the case against and released: Nouredine Bhiri, Hashemi Djoumni, 'Ali Fqih Ramdan, Hachemi 'Ali Hamdi, Hamadi Maiarah, Abdelouhab Kefi, Mounir Abroug, Mounzir Kacem, Adil Amara, Djalal Aouni, Najib Ferchichi, Imad Boughamni, Mokhtar Kobantini, and Mohamed Belkhiria.

The court decided to place those sentenced to hard labor under administrative surveillance for 10 years, and placed Mohamed Hedi Zamzami, Abdellatif Traboulsi, Ali Bousrour, and Abdelmajid Najjar under administrative surveillance.

Islamic Leader Arrested

NC281005 Paris AFP in English 0947 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Tunis, Sept 28 (AFP)—Tunisian security forces have arrested one of the leaders of the fundamentalist Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI) sentenced in his absence in a mass trial which ended Sunday, a reliable source said here Monday.

He was named as Mohamed Traboulsi, 33, who was sentenced to 20 years hard labour in the trial of 90 fundamentalists which saw seven people handed the death penalty.

Mr. Traboulsi had been sought with 13 other people following bomb blasts which injured 13 people in tourist hotels in southern Tunisia on August 2.

A total of 37 of the defendants in the month-long trial were judged in their absence, including five of those sentenced to death.

Islamic Jihad Threatens Government

NC272135 Paris AFP in English 2123 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Beirut, Sep 27 (AFP)—The Islamic Jihad on Sunday threatened to launch an assassination campaign against the Tunisian Government if it carried out death sentences against seven pro-Iranian Islamic fundamentalists.

The Jihad, in a warning released to a Western news agency here, authenticated its message with a photograph of the U.S. newsman Terry Anderson, whom the pro-Iranian Moslem fundamentalist group has been holding since March 1985.

The warning came hours after seven Moslem fundamentalists were sentenced to death at the end of a month-long trial in Tunis, in which 90 members of the Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI) were accused of plotting to set up an Islamic state with the help of Iran.

Of the seven facing the death penalty, five were tried in their absence.

"If the government does not reverse this iniquitous ruling toward Islamic fighters and free them, it will have to assume the responsibility for its decision, and this will result in its extinction," the Jihad communique said.

"Execution of the two Muhahidin brothers will cost the heads of the pillars of the despotic Tunisian regime."

The seven under sentence of death have seven days in which to appeal. In the last resort they may seek a reprieve from President Habib Bourguiba.

Other members of the MTI were handed down jail terms ranging from two years to 20 years' hard labour.

Romanian Prime Minister Speaks on Economic Ties

PM281134 Tunis L'ACTION in French 23 Sep 87 p 5

[Unattributed report on speech delivered by Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu at a dinner in Tunis on 21 September: "Ensuring the Harmonious Development of our Economic Relations"]

[Text] Constantin Dascalescu said that his visit to Tunisia is the natural result of the positive development in relations of friendship and cooperation between Romania and Tunisia.

These are the main points of the Romanian prime minister's toast:

"Reflecting our governments' decision to work to develop and extend cooperation between our two countries," he said, "the detailed exchange of views which we have just had on the present state of our bilateral relations, especially in the economic sphere, will enable us to establish practical and effective measures to speed up the implementation of the agreed objectives and actions and to ensure the harmonious and balanced development of Romanian-Tunisian economic relations."

"We think," the Romanian prime minister said, "that the fundamental problem of our time is to end the arms race and move toward disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament, and toward the defense of peace and life on our planet."

Romania strongly advocates the establishment of a comprehensive, lasting, and just peace in this region through an international peace conference held under UN auspices, and attended by all those concerned, including the PLO.

Romania also advocates an immediate end to the war between Iran and Iraq and the resolution of the region's problems, exclusively by peaceful means.

"In view of the particularly serious world economic situation and the foreign debt crisis affecting all states in the world, especially the developing countries, Romania thinks it is necessary," Mr Dascalescu said, "for the United Nations to appeal to all the governments of developed creditor countries, to the banks, and the international financial institutions, and especially to the forthcoming annual session of the IMF and the World Bank; asking them to adopt practical measures which will lead to the just and equitable solution of the economic and financial problems caused by the policy of credit and interest, and to cancel the foreign debts which are a growing burden for the developing countries."

Social Minister Briefs Bourguiba on Libya Visit

LD251416 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba met today with Social Affairs Minister Hedi Baccouche in the presence of Rachid Sfar, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and Amor Chedli. Hedi Baccouche later made the following statement: I conveyed to His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, doyen of the combatants for freedom, dignity, and independence, the greetings, respect, and affection of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

I told President Bourguiba about the results of the mission he entrusted to me to Col Al-Qadhdhafi and officials in sisterly Libya. The supreme combatant was satisfied with the success achieved in the comprehensive

and satisfactory settlement of the situation of Tunisian workers returning from Libya, a matter which constitutes a crucial and encouraging step in our bilateral relations. This should be reinforced to open the way for positive and constructive developments in the interests of the two countries, on the basis of good neighborliness and a principle of solidarity which concerns all the peoples in the region.

Western Sahara

Information Ministry Denounces Settlement

LD270113 Algiers APS in English 1352 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] SADR, September 26 (APS)—The Polisario Front and the SADR [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] Government launched a pressing call to all the countries of the world and the public opinion to denounce the policy of settlement pursued by the Moroccan Government in Western Sahara.

A communique issued by the Ministry of Information described this policy as a genuine and thinly disguised ethnocide" [quotation marks as received] The Moroccan Government is multiplying promises to entice the inhabitants of shanty towns in the big Moroccan cities into moving to Western Sahara, the communique said.

Hakim Says UN Mission's Visit 'Inopportune'

LD251806 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Excerpts] There has at last been a small development in the settlement of the conflict in Western Sahara with the imminent dispatch to the region of a UN technical mission. For more than 6 months, intensive talks have been taking place, through the United Nations, between the Moroccan Government and the Polisario Front. The UN mission will be able to visit both sides and its members will be allowed to move around anywhere and collect information. This will enable them to better formulate proposals for a negotiated cease-fire between the two sides and the holding of a referendum. [passage omitted]

The Polisario Front's Information Minister Ibrahim Hakim held a press conference in Paris this morning:

[Begin recording] [Hakim] We have agreed in principle that this mission should be sent. But first we would make the following observation: This mission will not be effective. It is inopportune. Second, any initiative leading to a referendum which confirms the occupation of the Sahara [by Morocco] will be rejected by us. This occupation, this conflict, has to be resolved and the solution involves first and foremost a political decision on both sides. Objective conditions must be created to enable a referendum to take place, and the first condition is to have a cease-fire. This cease-fire must be discussed with all parties. Today, which body, country, legal entity, or individual can, or is, capable of taking the place of the Polisario Front in Morocco to discuss the cease-fire? No one is capable of doing this. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Inter-Gulf Affairs

AFP: Mines Found Near Dubayy Port

NC280922 Paris AFP in English 0916 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Manama, Sep 28 (AFP)—Several mines were discovered early Monday in the southern Gulf in an area used by commercial ships entering or leaving the waterway via the Strait of Hormuz, regional shipping sources said.

They said the mines were found 50 kilometers (30 miles) off the port of Dubayy in the United Arab Emirates.

They added that as many as six mines may have been discovered 150 kilometers (94 miles) north of the strait.

Bahrain

Weinberger, Delegation Meet With Amir

JN271008 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Manama, 27 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain; and His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister of Bahrain, this morning received Caspar Weinberger, the U.S. secretary of defense, and the delegation accompanying him. The visitors came to extend greetings to their highnesses on the occasion of their visit to the country.

It has been learned that the two sides' talks dealt with bilateral relations, ways to enhance them, current regional developments, and issues of common interest.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahraini Defense Force; Shaykh Khalid ibn 'Abdallah al Khalifah, housing minister and acting foreign minister; Shaykh 'Ali ibn Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mutawwi', director general of the prime minister's office; Sam Zakhem, the U.S. ambassador to Bahrain; and Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Faris al Khalifah, head of administrative, financial, and consular affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The U.S. secretary of defense described his talks with his highness the amir and his highness the prime minister and heir apparent as good and positive. He added that the talks represented an opportunity to exchange views on issues of common interest.

In a statement to WAKH, Weinberger noted that during his meeting with their highnesses the amir and the prime minister and heir apparent, he made clear the United States' stands, its unflinching determination to exert its utmost efforts to secure free navigation in the Gulf, and its determination to guarantee free passage in international waterways with the cooperation of friendly states including Bahrain, to which it is bound by strong and firm ties of friendship.

The U.S. secretary of defense pledged that Washington will continue its relentless efforts to establish peace in the Gulf region with continuing diplomatic endeavors at the United Nations. He asserted that his government's objective has not been restricted to issuing a cease-fire resolution binding on both warring states, Iraq and Iran—something that was achieved by the issuance of a unanimous Security Council resolution—but that the United States goes a step further by working for an arms embargo against Iran to end terrorist acts against international shipping in the Gulf.

The U.S. secretary of defense expressed the hope that these efforts would succeed. He also praised the great support and backing provided by Bahrain to the United States, expressing the belief that this support and backing was beneficial to both countries. He also paid tribute to Bahrain's great efforts to help establish peace in this region, adding that these efforts were highly valued and appreciated.

Kuwait

Soviet Stand on Iran Sanctions Assailed

LD260957 Kuwait KUNA in English 0807 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 26 (KUNA)—Two Kuwaiti daily newspapers Saturday criticized the Soviet Union for its stand toward sanctions against Iran for its refusal to implement the U.N. Security Council 598 Resolution, while two others spoke about the speech delivered by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad at the U.N. General Assembly which focussed on the Iran-Iraq war.

Al-Qabas daily said what is unclear and unacceptable is the agreement reached by the two super powers on delaying sanctions on Iran.

The paper said the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has given that concession to the Soviets because he "attaches importance to our ability to work collectively toward that problem," but the paper pointed out what the American officials have said about this delay which they described as a waste of time.

Al-Qabas expressed belief that this decision will cost more victims, more dangers on international shipping and more instability in the area.

The paper said "We do not oppose postponing sanctions if that leads to a constructive American-Soviet cooperation toward implementing the 598 Resolution."

But the paper expressed fear that "it is clear that Moscow has its own plan to end the war that is biased to one of the parties and meets its conditions, and does not take the demands of the other party into consideration and contradicts with the clauses of the 598 Resolution."

In conclusion, the newspaper voiced concern that delaying the sanctions "has been necessitated by the international detente which started a new age by the latest

Euro-missile agreement and not by the requirements of peace in the region," pointing out that the decision to continue the war until the end is still standing on the highest level in Tehran.

Al-Siyasah daily newspaper directed yet a sharper criticism to Moscow by saying that "the Soviet Union will commit a grave mistake if its bargains with Iran omits presence in Afghanistan."

The paper stressed that Iran has no friends and the Soviet Union could easily find itself in dispute with Tehran tomorrow.

The newspaper went on saying that the Soviet Union "will commit a grave error if it thinks it can bargain with the U.S. on the Afghan issue, when the Soviet Union is clearly challenged by the Afghan Muslim people."

Al-Siyasah said "We, the people of the Gulf and the peninsula will be frustrated and disappointed if the Soviet Union thinks that its interests with Iran are more important than its relations and interests with us."

The paper concluded saying that "We will be frustrated if we see a big country following a certain method that might lead it to become a star in the orbit of an aggressor country that rejects peace and wants only to gain time, blackmail its neighbors and place obstacles in the way of the world navigation and trade."

Al-Ray al-'Amm newspaper expressed regret because the big countries have remained hostage to their interests, and are unable or do not wish to shoulder their responsibilities toward ending the war, which is currently in its 8th year.

The paper referred to the speech delivered by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad at the U.N. General Assembly last Thursday in which he stressed the seriousness of the situation in the Gulf and called on the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and to practice its duties toward that destructive war.

The paper stressed that the big countries which have interests in the continuation of the war will not do anything to end that conflict because their main concern is restricted to arms deals and receiving oil supplies without effort or at the lowest cost.

Al-Ray al-'Amm called on the big countries to help adopt the views expressed by Shaykh Sabah in speeches delivered in London, Paris, Moscow and New York and to take the necessary measures in order to get out of the current tense situation in the region.

The English-language *Kuwait Times* newspaper highlighted the speech of Shaykh Sabah in which he stressed that implementation of the Security Council Resolution 598 might be the last chance of securing a just and lasting peace between Iran and Iraq.

The paper pointed out that Shaykh Sabah was speaking more in anguish than in anger when he gave an anthology of Kuwait's striving to resolve the conflict amicably, and once again called on leadership in Iran to "fully and unambiguously" accept and abide by the Security Council Resolution 598.

The paper gave a prominence to Shaykh Sabah's declaration at the U.N. in which he said that "history will hold us all accountable, without mercy, if we fail to exert the effort and pressure for the implementation of the Security Council resolution." On this last point the paper said there can hardly be two opinions.

Security at Electric, Water Sites Viewed

LD280927 Kuwait KUNA in English 0836 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 28 (KUNA)—Minister of Electricity and Water Muhammad al-Sa'id 'Abd al-Muhsin al-Rifa'i affirmed that Kuwait's electricity and water installations enjoy strong protection provided by modern security equipments.

In an interview with daily *Al-Qabas*, published here today, Rifa'i said that due to the vital importance of such installations, strict security measures have been taken to guard against saboteurs.

National Guards, security men, and air defence are guarding those installations along with special security teams in each one, Rifa'i added.

Oman

Captured Iranian Sailors Arrive, Depart

JN261838 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1815 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Muscat, 26 Sep (WAKH)—Twenty-six Iranian seamen who survived the attack by a U.S. Navy helicopter against their vessel last Monday arrived at Al-Sib military airport in the Sultanate of Oman today. The *Omani News Agency*, ONA, said that Omani authorities received the Iranian seamen along with the corpses of three Iranians in the presence of a Red Cross representative. The agency stated that medical authorities from the Omani Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Health administered necessary first aid to the Iranian sailors, while the dead seamen were placed in coffins according to Islamic law. The agency noted that the Iranian sailors were handed over to the Iranian Government in the presence of the Iranian charge d'affaires in Muscat. An Iranian Boeing 727 belonging to the Iranian Government departed for Iran at 1800 [1400 GMT] this evening with the 26 surviving seamen on board.

Jordan's King Husayn Arrives 26 Sep

JN261749 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Salalah, Sept 26 (GNA)—King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Salalah, Oman this evening for a visit to Oman.

He was greeted by Sultan Qabus of Oman and other top officials.

The Jordanian monarch's visit to Oman came within the framework of consultations and coordination among Arab leaders and to prepare for the emergency Arab summit due to take place in Amman November 8.

Saudi Arabia

Acts Against Lebanese 'Terrorist' Denied

LD270825 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0240 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Jeddah, 26 Sep—A responsible source stated the following to SPA today in reply to both a statement attributed by the magazine *U.S. News & World Report* on Friday and by *The Washington Post* the following day to U.S. journalist Bob Woodward to the effect that former CIA Director William Casey had prior to his death told him that he was behind operations carried out by Saudi intelligence aimed at assassinating the head of a terrorist group in Lebanon, some other operations connected with aid to Chad and to others, as well as in reply to what the magazine has reported to the effect that the aforementioned writer had published defamatory comments concerning some leaders of Arab countries:

It is regrettable to observe that some U.S. newspapers embroil themselves in publishing such baseless stories to serve the objectives of their sources, sources whose enmity toward the Arab and Islamic nations is well known.

Everything published by the magazine and the newspaper concerning the Kingdom and attributed to the writer Woodward, quoting a man who has passed away and therefore cannot reply to what is being attributed to him, is baseless, the source added. The Kingdom has previously categorically denied these charges whose aim is no longer unknown to the readers, he concluded.

Secretary Weinberger Begins Visit 26 Sep

Received by King Fahd

LD261944 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1920 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 26 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, received His Excellency Caspar Weinberger, the U.S. secretary of defense, at his office in Al-Salam Palace this evening.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, his majesty's ambassador to the United States; His Excellency Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state and member of the cabinet; and Hume Horan, U.S. ambassador to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Meets Defense Minister

LD262130 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2050 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 26 Sep (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, this afternoon received at his palace in Jeddah Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense who is currently visiting the Kingdom.

His royal highness held a meeting with the U.S. secretary of defense in which bilateral relations between the two countries were discussed. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the ambassador of the custodian of the two holy mosques to the United States. [passage omitted]

Reports of Saddam-Al-Asad Meeting 'Incorrect'

JN280705 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0650 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Sep (INA)—A responsible Iraqi source has denied press reports about the start of what have been described as preparations for a meeting between President Saddam Husayn and the president of the Syrian regime, Hafiz al-Asad. In a statement to the Baghdad-based *Al-Thawrah* newspaper, published today, the Iraqi source described these reports as incorrect.

Reportage on Statements by Tariq 'Aziz

On Security Council Stance

JN260656 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] In New York, Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, did not find the stand of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council negative. He commented on the latest stand of the big five in a statement to Huda Tawfiq, our correspondent in New York:

[Begin recording] Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz commented on the statement of the big five with regard to giving a new chance, for an indefinite period, for the UN secretary general's efforts to succeed while measures to impose an arms embargo receded. He said that this represents the minimum and not the maximum degree of the big five's agreement. There were differences in the stands of the big five; consequently, their statement expressed the minimum degree of agreement. Relatively speaking, that is positive for it is still within the right context of Resolution 598. 'Aziz said that there were last-minute attempts to introduce changes into the resolution.

In his first reaction to the statement issued by the foreign ministers of the five big powers following deliberations that lasted throughout yesterday to reach agreement on the next steps, Tariq 'Aziz said: The problem is that some Security Council members do not want to admit that Iran has rejected the resolution. That is due to the fact that special interests play a major role. Therefore, these states want to give Iran more time than necessary.

In a statement to our radio, Tariq 'Aziz affirmed that he had refused to discuss the clauses of Resolution 598 with the UN secretary general except in the same order as they appear in the resolution. 'Aziz said: We will not discuss the resolution's clauses with the secretary general except in their natural order. He is free to discuss what he pleases with the Iranian side. However, Iraq is a party to a process which cannot continue without Iraq's agreement. [End recording]

On 'Unity' of Security Council

JN261114 Baghdad INA in English 1020 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] United Nations, Sept 26, INA—Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said last night that the unity of the five permanent members of the Security Council was the key to adoption of mandatory Resolution 598 demanding an end to the Iran-Iraq war. In an interview with Radio France International and *Le Monde* following his address to the U.N. General Assembly, Mr. 'Aziz said that he would be meeting next week with the new president of the Security Council for the month of October and will continue a round of meetings with the foreign ministers who are in New York for the general debate of the Assembly. He said that it is essential for the United Nations to keep on the right basis with respect to the resolution and implement it as it reads, not as interpreted by the Iranians.

The Iranian regime, he noted, has not accepted the resolution, "so they don't have the right to impose their interpretation of it". Mr. 'Aziz said that when Iraq saw the outline of the resolution, it accepted it and helped fill in some of the blank spaces. But Iran, on the other hand, had not accepted the outer framework and would like to impose its own and arrangements. [Sentence as received]

Mr. 'Aziz said there is hesitation on the part of some of the Council's members to go ahead as yet with enforcement measures but he hoped that that hesitation will end very soon and that they will abide by their pledges to stick to the resolution as it is and not yield to any kind of Iranian maneuvers, intimidation or blackmail.

He described the meeting of the five permanent Council members with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday as "a positive one" because the unity of the permanent members was preserved, "which is important." The five permanent members, Mr. 'Aziz said, had rejected the idea of dividing the resolution or "pick-pointing" it, which was "positive."

Asked if he believed the resolution would be implemented, Mr. 'Aziz said he could not predict that because an implementation of the resolution that would lead to final peace would need the agreement of both parties. Iraq, he noted, had agreed, "but Iran has not, and the logical consequence of the situation is that if the other party does not agree, then the secretary-general has to take enforcement measures."

Mr. 'Aziz said that a number of Security Council members "don't want to admit yet that Iran has refused the resolution. They know it as a fact and no one can tell us to the contrary." They don't want to lose their business chances with Iran, he said, so they are giving more time than is necessary to Iran. But he added, "sooner or later" they will come to the realization that Iran has refused the resolution. Meanwhile, Mr. 'Aziz said, Iranian aggression against Iraq is still going on, and it "is natural" that Iraq will continue its defensive activity.

Asked about reports that the Americans had backed down on the subject of an arms embargo, Mr. 'Aziz said that was not correct to his knowledge. He noted that the five permanent members of the Council had given the secretary- general their support to enforce his mandate and had given him some time to do it and that they also agreed on considering enforcement measures.

Asked about an ad hoc committee to first investigate responsibility for the war, Mr. 'Aziz said that Iraq accepts the resolution "as an integrated whole," including the paragraph that calls for the investigation. "We are ready to cooperate with the secretary-general in this respect, but in the sequence of the resolution." He noted that the resolution calls first for a ceasefire, followed by an immediate withdrawal to international boundaries.

Asked about the major role played by the five permenent members in formulating the resolution, Mr. 'Aziz said that the five bear certain responsibilities within the Council and in the world. If the five permanent members work toward maintaining peace in a region, "we have to support them."

But, he added, "It is very clear to us that the Iranians are not ready for peace. In my opinion, they are afraid of peace. They cannot conceive their regime surviving in a peaceful situation." On the other hand, Mr. 'Aziz added, the Iranians know that 598 is different from previous resolutions, because it was unanimous and it was binding. If they say a clear no, he added, then the enforcement measures will be unavoidable, so "they want to continue their policy of aggression without saying a clear no in order to avoid the possibility of enforcement measures."

Rejects Soviet Proposal

JN261924 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from New York]

[Excerpt] Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the statement of the big five represents the minimum and not the maximum degree of agreement. He added that there were differences in stands and hesitation by some big states in the Council toward the imposition of an arms embargo on Iran.

This week we saw that some permanent member states did not insist much on the full implementation of the resolution, while other permanent states insisted on the comprehensive implementation of the resolution and called for an arms embargo on Iran. Agreement among the big five was inevitable for work to continue within the framework of the Security Council, he added. Therefore, he said, the five states agreed to maintain their unity and the prevailing opinion at the foreign ministers meeting was that the comprehensiveness of the resolution should be retained.

In the first Iraqi reaction to the statement of the five states, Tariq 'Aziz told our radio that he is relatively satisfied with the five states' decision to maintain unanimity and commitment to the comprehensiveness of the resolution. This minimum degree, he said, is still within the sound framework of dealing with the resolution. He added that there were attempts to split the resolution and select parts from it, but these attempts were not accepted.

In the opinion of Tariq 'Aziz, the statement paves the way for new measures to embargo arms if Iran continues its maneuvers. He said: Work by the big five will continue in this direction if no result is reached by the secretary general. He termed Iran's proposal on its acceptance of a de facto cease-fire as deceptive. He said that Iran has thus far not abided by a written stand. These are mere words they utter during their meetings with the secretary general and Iraq cannot deal with such Iranian methods, he added.

He reported that he had told the Soviet foreign minister that Iraq rejects the Soviet proposal to link a cease-fire with the formation of an inquiry commission in charge of determining the side responsible for starting the conflict. Tariq 'Aziz said that he had informed the secretary general that Iraq will reject any changes in the implementation of the resolution. Therefore, implementation should be based on the sequence in which the resolution is drafted. He said: We will not discuss the paragraphs of the resolution with the secretary general except in their natural sequence. This, he said, applies to the formation of the investigation committee, which should come only after the cease-fire and withdrawal are discussed.

In his statement to us, Tariq 'Aziz also stressed that Iraq will not change its stand even by a millimeter. He said: The problem now is that some of the Council members do not want to admit that Iran has rejected the resolution. They want to give Iran more time than necessary. However, they will eventually admit this fact. [Passage omitted on correspondent's comment]

Iran Warned Not To Lose Peace Opportunity

JN271249 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1133 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim has asserted that militarily the war has been decided completely in Iraq's favor. He said that the initiative is in Iraq's hands in view of its superiority, steadfastness, and constant readiness to bury any aggression. Jasim noted that Iraq, under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, who is leading a battle of construction and who is also leading the war, enjoys total and crushing superiority. He said that the Iranian regime will regret its rejection of the opportunities of peace if Iranian officials should lose the opportunity provided by Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for ending the Iraq-Iran war.

Speaking at a press conference in Baghdad today and addressing more than 100 Arab and foreign journalists and radio and television correspondents, Jasim declared that the Iranian regime shoulders the full legal, moral, and practical responsibility before the international community, the Iraqi people, and the Iranian people for beginning the aggression and insisting on continuing it.

Jasim reviewed the events that led to the Iranian aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980. He said that prior to that date the Iranian regime had violated Iraqi airspace 294 times and carried out 244 armed military attacks on Iraqi territory.

Referring to the Arab stand on the Iraq-Iran war, Jasim said that it is a good stand with the exception of the aberration of the agent Syrian regime and its alliance, through its leader Hafiz al-Asad, with the rulers of Tehran. He affirmed that the Syrian stand is incompatible with Arab ethics, national values, the Arab League Charter, and the Arab Collective Defense pact and is contrary to even the minimum level of Arab relations and ethics. The culture and information minister said that the Syrian regime is playing a known destructive role in inter-Arab relations through its direct alliance with the Iranian regime. It had sought to liquidate the Palestinian revolution, create divisions within the PLO, interfere in the PLO's internal affairs, and perpetrate massacres of the Palestinian and Lebanese people. He contended that the Syrian regime no longer deserves to be described as an Arab regime at all.

Jasim lauded Kuwait's courageous steadfastness in the face of Iranian threats and Saudi Arabia's boldness in the face of the Iranian crime at the Mecca mosque during the pilgrimage. He said that the Iranian crimes in Mecca are a form of reckless conduct incompatible with the principles of Islam. He urged the international community to condemn such crimes aimed against one of Islam's pillars.

In his press conference, Culture and Information Minister Jasim said Iraq is closely watching the international situation with regard to the implementation of Security Council Resolution No 598. He emphasized that Iraq will not allow a division of the resolution or a change in the sequence of its articles. He declared: Our political, economic, and strategic stand toward any state will in the long run be determined in light of the stands of the other parties on the war and particularly their stand on the Security Council resolution.

Jasim asserted that the preservation of Iraq's security, sovereignty, and independence and the defense of Iraq in the face of the barbaric Khomeyniite onslaught takes priority over all other considerations. Culture and Information Minister Jasim declared that any party that seeks to win the Iranian regime at the expense of the Arabs and Iraqis will lose the Arab nation and Iraq as well as Iran, for the Iranian regime does not respect conventions or agreements as it is a backward and an outlaw regime.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations

Communique No 2,843

JN251525 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1420 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,843 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 September and carried during "Radio Babylon" broadcast]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God is great. May God be praised. To further tear apart the Iranian regime's limbs and strip from it all the economic and military installations it uses to continue its hostile war against our country, a very large number of our planes penetrated deep inside Iran today to deliver destructive blows against vital and military targets. The following is a roundup of their activities:

1. At 1108 [0708 GMT] today, a number of our planes delivered destructive blows to selected targets at the engineering equipment factory near Ahvaz. The planes violently and vehemently pounded these targets.

2. At 1110, a number of our planes delivered a second blow to the engineering equipment factory near Ahvaz and pounded other targets at this factory.

3. At 1112, a number of our planes inflicted destructive blows to a third group of selected targets at the engineering equipment factory, tearing them apart.

4. At 1104, our planes delivered a blow to weapons and military equipment at the Habibollah military camp, setting their targets ablaze.

5. At 1054, a number of our planes delivered a destructive blow to a Hawk missile battery, the kind that was supplied by the Zionists to their slaves in Iran, and destroyed it.

6. A number of our planes delivered an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 0500 today.

After fulfilling these tasks, all of our planes returned safely and victoriously to the homeland in God's care and protection. The Iranian rulers must know that prolonging the war and rejecting the international community's will to establish peace will mean nothing other than total destruction for Iran and the extermination of the military and economic powers of these criminal despotic rulers. Iraq will remain in possession of all its power and strength, foremost of which is God's support in its defense of its territory, people, and aspirations.

Blessed be you, O men of our Air Force—commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks. You skillfully score daily victories of our country against the enemies of God, our enemies who are also the enemies of peace. O God, may You be praised for the victories You have bestowed upon us. You are the greatest support.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 September 1987

Communique No 2,844

JN251716 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,844 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 September 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant Armed Forces continued to inflict further losses on enemy ranks through their

combat activities. The following is a roundup of these activities for last night and today:

1. Our heroic Air Force carried out 127 combat missions to destroy the enemy's vital and military targets, its positions in the operational theaters, and its oil supplies. Afterward, all of our planes returned safely and victoriously to their bases in God's care and protection.

2. One enemy force of 29 small boats tried to approach a loading jetty at the Al-'Amiq Port on the Arabian Gulf. Our courageous naval units and the heroic port force confronted the enemy force with various kinds of weapons and forced it to flee before it could approach its targets.

3. A courageous force in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan confronted an enemy patrol and clashed with it using all kinds of weapons and killing most of the patrol's personnel. The remaining personnel were captured. This courageous force captured four Kalashnikov rifles, one radio, and other supplies. It then safely returned with the enemy prisoners and captured materiel to its position, may God be praised.

4. A heroic force of our courageous combatants in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah spotted an enemy ambush. It courageously attacked the ambushers, killing most of them; the others fled. The force also captured a quantity of weapons. Elsewhere in the same sector, one observation post and one vehicle were destroyed, one tank was damaged with one of its crewmen killed, and one ammunition dump was destroyed.

5. One enemy soldier was killed and one infantry position, one vehicle, and one machinegun were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

6. One ammunition dump, one 106-mm gun, and one observation post were destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris.

7. One 106-mm gun and two infantry positions were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

8. To cover for its military and political failure and to express its hatred for our people, the criminal ruling clique in Iran continued to shell purely residential areas in the valiant city of Basra with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling martyred nine citizens, two of whom were women, and wounded others. The shelling damaged one of the mosques of God, one elementary school, and some civilian houses. The continuation of these crimes will make the Iranian rulers feel deep regret when regret will be to no avail. May our martyrs receive mercy and our wounded enjoy swift recovery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 September 1987

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

JN251903 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1838 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Sep (INA)—Iraq has denied Iranian claims of having shot down an Iraqi plane this morning, affirming that all of the Iraqi planes returned safely to base after carrying out their missions. A military spokesman told INA that such Iranian lies are meant to cover the Iranian regime's grave losses as a result of the Iraqi Air Force's strikes against Iran's vital economic establishments which help it to continue the war.

2 'Large' Maritime Targets Hit

JN260522 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Statement by military spokesman dated 26 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our heroic Air Force is blessed by God and appreciated by the people and their leader. It will continue to pursue the enemy day and night to pound vital targets and to destroy the oil supply lifelines which the charlatans use for their aggressive purposes. With the rapacious hawks' struggle, the following was achieved:

1. At 0020 today [2020 GMT on 25 September], an accurate and effective blow was delivered to a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

2. At 0600 [0200 GMT], an accurate and effective blow was also delivered to another large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

Having carried out these two missions, the hawks returned safely to the homeland in God's care and protection.

[Dated] 26 September 1987

Lloyds Confirms Tanker Hit

JN261118 Bagdhad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] London, 26 Sep (INA)—The British insurance company Lloyds has confirmed that an oil tanker was hit by an Iraqi missile last night 110 miles south of Iran's Khark Island. Lloyds cited its sources in the Arabian Gulf as saying that the tanker was set ablaze and one of its reservoirs was damaged. Two salvage ships sailed toward the hit tanker after it stopped movement. Earlier today Iraq had announced that Iraqi fighter planes hit two maritime targets near the Iranian coast, scoring effective and accurate blows at dawn.

Communique No 2,845

JN261359 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1308 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,845 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 September]

[Text] It is the will of our great people and our legitimate right to destroy the vital installations pertaining to the war effort and cut off the oil supplies of the Iranian

regime. This regime is exploiting its revenues for aggressive purposes against our country and to continue the war and spread sedition and destruction. Pursuant to our people's will and our legitimate right, our gigantic Air Force today continued to deal painful blows to the enemy, to targets deep inside its territory, and to its oil revenues in the Arabian Gulf. The following was achieved with God's help and through the determination of our men:

1. At 1110 [0710 GMT] today, a number of our planes dealt a violent blow to an oil installation in the Agha Jari oil fields. Our rapacious hawks directed their shells at their selected targets courageously and accurately. This is usual for the rapacious Iraqi hawks. They destroyed these targets by setting fire to them.

2. At 0140, our brave planes directed a destructive blow to the Ahvaz radio station to silence the voice of lies and charlatanism. They hit their targets accurately.

3. At 0020, a number of our planes dealt an accurate and effective blow to a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

4. At 0600, a number of our planes dealt an accurate and effective blow to a second large maritime target near the Iranian coast. After carrying out all these missions, our planes returned safely and victoriously to the homeland in God's care.

Iraq has accepted peace as a principle and policy. It accepted UN Security Council Resolution No 598. Iraq also feels that it is responsible for security and peace in the region. Iraq will continue its violent blows to economic pillars and oil revenues to strip the Iranian regime of its means of aggression and to contribute to peace prospects. It will do so also to exercise its right to defend its land, people, and sovereignty and to punish those who insist on war and capitalize on its disasters—the unjust Iranian rulers. Blessed be our heroic Air Force—command, hawks, officers, and other ranks. Every day they attack the enemies and achieve victories for free and good Iraq. Praise be to God, who enables us to achieve victory over the unjust.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 September 1987

Communique No 2,846

JN261648 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,846 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With growing capability and renewed sacrifices, our victorious Armed Forces are continuing their heroic activities to hit the bones of the Khomeyniites and inflict further losses on them. The following is a roundup of these activities for last night and today:

1. The planes of our heroic Air Force carried out the missions mentioned in our Communique No 2,845, issued this afternoon, and attacked enemy units in the operational theaters. Our planes flew 110 combat missions and returned safely to their bases in God's care.

2. The brave knights of the helicopter gunships today flew 22 combat missions and inflicted new losses on enemy personnel, weapons, and equipment. They returned safely to their bases, God be praised.

3. Our brave units in the I Army Corps northern sector attacked enemy units opposite them, achieving the following: four scoundrels killed, one bulldozer [preceding word in English] burned and destroyed, two vehicles destroyed and a third damaged, and two infantry positions destroyed and their occupants killed.

4. One observation post was destroyed, one large vehicle was burned and destroyed, and two ammunition dumps were blown up in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. One infantry position was destroyed and one ammunition dump was destroyed in the I Special Forces sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces.

6. The aggressors suffered six killed, two vehicles carrying equipment and one shovel [preceding word in English] were destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

7. One scoundrel was killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

8. One vehicle was destroyed and burned and another damaged and one tank was destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

9. Two scoundrels were killed, one infantry position was destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up on the VII Army Corps front.

10. The charlatan clique in Iran shelled residential areas in the brave city of Basra with long-range artillery. One woman was martyred, one child was wounded, and damage was done to several houses and private property. The criminals also shelled with long-range artillery the townships of Khanaqin, Qal'at Dizah, and Sirwan. One citizen in Khanaqin was martyred and five citizens, including one child, were wounded in Qal'at Dizah. Two citizens in Sirwan were wounded. Mercy to our two martyrs and swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 September 1987

2 'Large' Maritime Targets Struck

JN270614 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0552 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Statement by military spokesman dated 27 September 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In implementation of our people's will and their legitimate right to destroy the arteries of the Zionist

Iranian regime's oil supplies, the revenues of which it uses to achieve its aggressive and evil purposes, to continue the war against our country, and to destabilize security and stability in the region, the planes of our giant Air Force carried out the following:

1. At 2300 [1900 GMT] yesterday, an accurate and effective blow was delivered to a large maritime target off the Iranian coast.

2. At 0600 [0200 GMT] today, our planes launched a successful raid against a second large maritime target off the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective hit. After the fierce hawks carried out these two missions, they returned safely with their planes to the homeland in God's care and protection.

[Dated] 27 September 1987

Communique No 2,847

JN270958 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0922 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,847 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 September 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to You, O Lord. O zealous Iraqis, your heroic Air Force, which is blessed by Almighty God and which enjoys the appreciation of our victorious leader Saddam Husayn, may God protect him, your heroic Air Force, which is a source of pride for you and your sword brandished in the face of aggression, has been executing and continues to execute your will and the sound directives of our leader capably and accurately. It is dealing punishing blows to the enemies of our country. Our daring pilots carried out the following heroic missions last night and today:

1. At 0930 [0530 GMT] today, our aircraft launched a violent air raid on the Bid Boland complex for petroleum products. Our pilots penetrated enemy defenses and dealt direct blows at selected targets in a natural gas pressurization plant. Explosions were witnessed throughout the target area and smoke was seen billowing from it.

2. At the same time our aircraft were launching a successful air raid on selected targets in the Emam Hasan pumping station. Direct hits were scored on these targets. Explosions were observed and columns of smoke were seen rising from the targets.

3. At 2300 on 26 September, our aircraft scored an accurate and effective blow upon a large maritime target off the Iranian coast.

4. At 0600 today, our heroic pilots scored an accurate and effective hit on a second maritime target off the Iranian coast.

5. To continue to rip open the jugular vein of the charlatan regime and to express our country's capability and growing strength, at 1100 today our courageous pilots scored an accurate and effective hit upon a third very large martime target off the Iranian coast.

After carrying out these missions, all our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God, carrying tidings of a new victory to a people worthy of victory, for it is only they who will be victorious in the war.

From a position of strength and capability—as the experiences of the past and these days have shown—we say loudly to the rulers of Iran: This is the reply to their rejection of the resolution of peace and to their persistence in continuing the war. There will be no reply other than more punishing and harsher blows. Such a massacre of their maritime targets and such blows to their vital installations will continue and, indeed, will increase until they submit to justice and the virture of peace. Otherwise, they must face their bleak and inevitable fate.

Bless you, O men of our heroic Air Force—commanders, pilots, officers, and men, worthy of living in the time of the beloved leader Saddam Husayn, may God protect him, and of fighting under his banner. God is with us because our cause is just. God is the best champion and helper.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1987

Shipping Sources on Attacks

JN271025 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Shipping sources in Manama have confirmed that two oil tankers were hit off the Iranian coast during two air raids launched by our heroic Air Force planes this morning and last night. These sources said that one of the tankers was Iranian and that it was hit at 0600 [0200 GMT] today, while the second tanker, a Cypriot vessel called the *Coral Cape* was hit at 2300 [1900 GMT] last night.

Iranian Artillery Shells Basra

JN271257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—The Iranian regime has continued to use long-range artillery to shell residential areas in northern and southern Iraq, damaging civilian property. At 1250 [0850 GMT] today, residential areas in the village of Dukan came under Iranian artillery shelling. Long-range Iranian artillery also resumed shelling the village of Sirwan and its environs at 1330 today. Residential areas in the city of Basra came under long-range Iranian artillery shelling at 0230 last night. A number of houses, one school, one mosque, and one husayniyah [Shi'ite place of worship] were damaged.

Lloyds on Hit Cypriot Tanker

JN271340 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] London, 27 Sep (INA)—The British insurance company Lloyds has affirmed that a Cypriot oil tanker called *Coral Cape* was hit by a missile while sailing at

latitude 28 degrees north 28 minutes and longitude 51 degrees east 3 minutes in the Arab Gulf yesterday. The information section on maritime shipping damage at Lloyds told an INA correspondent in London by telephone today that news reaching Lloyds indicates that the weight of the stricken tanker when empty is 112,825 tonnes. This is the tanker that Iraq yesterday said it attacked off the Iranian coast in the Arab Gulf. Lloyds said that the Cypriot tanker's engine was completely disabled after being hit by an Iraqi missile.

Downing of 2 Aircraft Denied

JN271337 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1312 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Tehran radio's claim today that two Iraqi aircraft were downed. The spokesman said that all the aircraft returned safely to base after perfectly executing their missions. The spokesman added: We have become accustomed to these lies by the ignorant Iranian regime. This is its cheap way of covering up its grave losses after receiving painful blows by the Iraqi Air Force.

Panamanian Tanker Hit

NC271501 Paris AFP in English 1443 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Manama, Sept 27 (AFP)—A small Panamanian-flagged tanker was hit in an Iraqi air raid early Sunday near Iran's main oil terminal of Khark Island, regional shipping sources said. The sources named the tanker as the 15,000-ton *Marlin* but they were unsure of the extent of damage inflicted in the attack.

An Iranian-owned Cypriot-registered supertanker, the 225,668-ton *Coral Cape* suffered heavy damage in its engine room when it was hit by an Iraqi-fired Exocet missile late Saturday some 140 kilometers (86 miles) from Khark. In the 12 hours following the attack on the *Coral Cape*, Baghdad said Iraqi jets staged raids on two more "large maritime targets"—the usual term for tankers—and on two industrial sites inside Iran.

Tehran said two Iraqi jets were shot down Sunday over mainland Iran but a military spokesman in Baghdad promptly denied the reports.

Cypriot Tanker Hit Again

JN271526 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1505 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] London, 27 Sep (INA)—The British *Press Association Agency* this afternoon affirmed that the Iraqi aircraft attacked for the second time the Cypriot oil tanker *Coral Cape* today. Iraqi aircraft attacked the tanker with a missile last night. The agency said the Cypriot tanker was hit by the second Iraqi missile, an Exocet, while being towed to the Iranian port of Bushehr. The agency added that Iraqi air strikes have forced commercial ships in the area to stay close to the coast.

Communique No 2,848

JN271655 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,848 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Armed Forces have continued their combat operations to defend Iraqi territory, inflicting on the aggressors new losses. The activities for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our heroic Air Force carried out 67 combat missions to implement the tasks mentioned in Communique No 2,847, issued today, against enemy forces in the operational theaters. After carrying out their missions, our aircraft returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships carried out 24 combat missions. During these missions, they delivered effective blows to enemy positions, personnel concentrations, and weapons emplacements in the theaters of operation, inflicting further losses on the enemy. Afterward our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Two enemy vehicles were destroyed, one vehicle was damaged, and all of their occupants were either killed or wounded in the I Army Corps nothern sector.

4. One of our units in the Special I Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces sector—destroyed two enemy weapon emplacements and one infantry position. The force then returned safely to base.

5. Two ammunition dumps were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

6. One vehicle was destroyed and two ammunition dumps were blown up in the III Army Corps east of Al-Basrah. One scoundrel was killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

7. Two enemy soldiers were killed and three infantry positions were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

8. A number of Iranian military men and civilians sought refuge with our forward forces and were transferred safely to the rear.

9. The criminal enemy shelled with long-range artillery residential areas in the valiant city of Basra, wounding eight civilians, including three children. One mosque and two schools were also damaged. The criminal enemy also shelled with the long-range artillery the village of Sayyid Sadiq, martying one female citizen and wounding nine other civilians, including five children. Mercy to our female martyr and swift recovery to our wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1987

'Very Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN271803 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1754 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—Iraqi warplanes at 1839 [1439 GMT] this evening delivered an accurate and effective blow to a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast. In a statement to INA a short while ago, the Iraqi military spokesman said that the raiding planes returned safely to base after carrying out their missions. He added that this raid falls within the framework of the Iraqi air strikes aimed at destroying all the oil supplies which the Iranian rulers use to commit aggressions against Iraq. This is the fourth maritime target to receive an accurate and effective blow by the Iraqi aircraft in the past 24 hours.

Foreign Ministry Denies Peres-Khamene'i Talks

TA271149 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehud Gol has dismissed as nonsense yesterday's report in a Kuwaiti newspaper that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres met last week in New York with Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i. The newspaper, *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm*, reported that Peres and Khamene'i discussed a deal in which U.S. hostages in Lebanon would be freed in return for U.S. arms and spare parts for the Tehran government.

In Jerusalem the prime minister's office maintained that the report that Yitzhaq Shamir was notified of such a meeting was not even worth responding to.

Reports, Comment on Peres-Shevardnadze Talks

'No Breakthrough' Seen

TA270607 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres achieved no breakthrough in his talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York, but Israeli officials reported progress. They said the Soviets showed greater flexibility in their stand regarding the Middle East peace conference, especially in dropping their insistence that the PLO need not comprise a separate delegation in the peace talks. Correspondent Judy Lessing in New York spoke to Peres after his meeting with Shevardnadze. She says the Israeli foreign minister also raised the issue of Soviet Jewry, including direct flights to Israel.

[Begin recording] [Peres] I raised the issue of how people that want to reach Israel directly could do so.

[Lessing] And what was the reaction?

[Peres] I did not expect a reaction on the spot, but I think it will be considered in a sympathetic manner.

[Lessing] On Soviet-Israeli relations, which have become closer, but have a long way to go, you both agreed on the speed at which this should take place?

[Peres] We both agreed that time is running out and we should really try our best in the forthcoming months to advance peace in the Middle East.

[Lessing] Mr Peres said the Soviet foreign minister raised some interesting guidelines on an international conference. He declined to be specific, but said that while he does not want to paint too rosy a picture because there are still some disagreements, both men did agree time is running out and that whatever can be done now should not be postponed. Who would go to this kind of conference? Mr Shevardnadze and Mr Peres agreed that Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria, plus the Palestinians, should be invited.

Mr Peres continued to stress he would expect direct negotiations to come from such a gathering. [end recording]

Peres Notes 'Sympathetic Ear'

TA270741 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by correspondent Ya'aqov Eylon in New York after the Peres-Shevardnadze meeting—recorded]

[Text] [Peres] For me it was a fascinating meeting, free of polemics or any attempt to preach to us or teach us a lesson, with a man who feels he is participating in shaping a new chapter in international relations. He dealt with the specifics of two areas that do not involve the international conference but pertain to, shall we say, relations between the Soviet Union and Israel, as well as the issue that has been entitled human rights, but what I would call the Jewish issue.

[Eylon] Can we expect some changes in the near future on the Jewish issue and on an international conference?

[Peres] I would hesitate to give answers I did not receive. What I can say, however, is that with respect to all these issues, I met with what I would call at least a sympathetic ear. Whenever I tried to obtain immediate answers he said to me: Mr Peres, if you were in my place, you too would not have provided instant responses and would have preferred to check matters beforehand.

USSR Interest Office Rejected

TA271014 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Sep 87 p 1

[Report from New York by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has rejected a Soviet proposal that a diplomatic interest office be opened in Tel Aviv. The proposal was raised by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during his meeting with Peres on the eve of the Jewish New Year. Peres called the proposal offensive and added that Israel cannot accept a Soviet representation in Israel that would be anything lower than an embassy.

One of the central subjects discussed at the meeting was, predictably, the emigration of Soviet Jews. The Soviet foreign minister promised that his country would reexamine all the emigration requests that had so far been refused. He emphasized that thousands of Jews received exit permits from the Soviet Union last year.

In the political sphere, the Soviet foreign minister refrained from mentioning the PLO as a party that should participate in direct negotiations. Peres views this as a turning point in the Soviet Union's policy, although a Soviet spokesman announced immediately after the conversation that the Soviet Union insists on PLO participation in the political process. The Soviets accepted the principle of holding negotiations in the framework of regional committees, but still adhere to their position that the international conference should play an active role in the political process. Peres' stand is that the conference should serve only as a framework and provide the aegis.

Another topic was direct flights from the Soviet Union to Israel. The Soviets said they would check this point and provide an answer soon. [passage omitted]

Missile Warning 'Propaganda'

TA280547 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Sep 87 p 1

[Report by Benny Morris]

[Text] The prime minister's office yesterday dismissed as "frivolous" and "propaganda" recent Soviet concern about Israel's alleged development of medium-range Jericho II missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads. The missiles, which the Soviets claim can reach their Black Sea Fleet ports, was raised as an issue by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in his meeting with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres last Wednesday in New York.

A well-placed source in the prime minister's office yesterday obliquely referred to Peres's repeated efforts to soothe the Soviets on this issue. He said: "We are making a mistake by broadcasting these charges and reacting to them. They are not serious and not intended to be taken seriously. They are propaganda and a part of psychological warfare. The Soviets know that we have no designs on them. We are turning (the missiles) into a golem by inflating and repeating the matter."

The source said that whoever repeats the Soviet charges "serves Soviet propaganda purposes."

The source was referring to the series of Hebrew and Russian-language broadcasts by the Soviets, condemning Israel's development of the missiles.

Peres apparently repeated this line when Shevardnadze raised the matter last week. Responding to a question, Peres told the Knesset on July 29, after the first series of Soviet broadcasts, that the Soviets need not be worried and that Israel does not possess missiles which can reach the Soviet Union. The latest Soviet broadcast on the matter was on Moscow's Hebrew language service last Tuesday.

Peres on Soviet Flexibility

TA271045 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Sep 87 p 2

[Report from New York by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] "A direct channel of communication has been established between the Soviet foreign minister and myself, which would make it possible for us to pursue political progress between the Soviet Union and Israel," Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told *Hadashot* following his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York on Wednesday.

Shevardnadze ended his meeting with Peres with the Hebrew blessing, Shana Tova [Happy New Year].

Peres added: "There is currently an opportunity to promote the political process. It would be a mistake to let that opportunity slip. An atmosphere of rapprochement between the Soviet Union and the United States exists, as does Soviet readiness for direct contacts with us. It is important to take advantage of this openness, particularly for the sake of Soviet Jews and the peace process.

"My meeting with the Soviet foreign minister was different from all our previous meetings in both time and content, as well as place. I had the chance to present all the issues, primarily the Jewish one. I also see progress on the international conference issue.

"The prime significance is in the Soviet agreement to hold negotiations in the format of regional committees. The Soviets have likewise shown greater flexibilty on the issue of Palestinian representation and did not present PLO participation as a precondition. Nevertheless, some gaps still remain."

Peres' first telephone call after his meeting with Shevardnadze was to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Peres briefed Shamir on the specifics of the conversation. Shamir listened to Peres and asked several short questions, mainly on the Jewish issue.

An agreement in principle has been reached on a meeting between Foreign Minister Peres and the PRC foreign minister. This was achieved through clandestine contacts held between Peres' office and the PRC UN delegation. If that materializes, it would be the first meeting between an Israeli foreign minister and his Chinese counterpart.

The two countries do not have diplomatic relations. The PRC's UN ambassador confirmed that the meeting might take place this week. Peres flew from New York to Los Angeles last night, and will pursue contacts with the Chinese delegation there.

Shamir Spokesman on Talks

TA270707 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Report by Yaron Deqel]

[Text] The prime minister's office has expressed satisfaction over the fact that Shim'on Peres briefed Yitzhaq Shamir on his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze immediately after the event. The prevailing feeling in Shamir's office is that no dramatic developments have resulted from the New York meeting of the two foreign ministers on the eve of the Jewish New Year. At the same time, reports alleging that Shevardnadze told Peres the Soviet Union would be prepared to hold an international peace conference without PLO participation drew the following reaction from Shamir's office: This does not change Yitzhaq Shamir's position one bit, and he continues to oppose the conference.

Nevertheless, the prime minister's office is pleased with the way Shim'on Peres has thus far presented the issue of the international conference, carefully pointing out that

two views prevail in Israel and noting that he represents only one view.

As to the report published over the weekend in the Cairo weekly *Uktubar*, that President Husni Mubarak had turned down a request by the prime minister for a meeting as long as Shamir continues to oppose an international conference, the prime minister's office dismisses the report, calling it not serious.

Nusaybah Claims Most Palestinians Want Peace

TA280528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Palestinian leader Dr Sari Nusaybah says those who attacked him because of his meetings with Likud Party members are not representative of the Palestinian people. In an interview with *New Outlook* magazine Nusaybah said the majority of Palestinians are interested in peace and that those who beat him up last week at Bi'r Zayt University belong to a small minority. Nusaybah added that two possibilities lie before both Jews and Palestinians, either to establish two separate states or one democratic, secular state. On the PLO, Nusaybah said it has a central role to play in any solution to the Middle East conflict.

Security Forces Destroy Murder Suspect's Home

TA260522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Security forces destroyed the house of the suspect arrested following the murder of an Army reservist on Thursday at Megiddo junction. The house of Muhammad Ahmad Hajj Ibrahim, from the village of Al-Yamun near Janin, was destroyed on orders from head of Central Command, Major General 'Amram Mitzna'. Ibrahim is suspected of stabbing to death 43-year-old Army reservist Alexander Arad and stealing his machinegun. He was picked up by border police close to the scene of the murder.

Escaped Terrorists Captured at Egyptian Border

TA271123 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] The three terrorists who escaped from the Nafha jail 6 days ago were captured by an IDF patrol on Saturday according to an IDF spokesman. The terrorists tried to cross the border into Egypt. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal adds that an IDF patrol in northern Negev spotted a truck loaded with haystacks making its way toward the Egyptian border. It aroused suspicion, and an investigation revealed the terrorists hiding in the vehicle.

Prince Hasan Addresses UN General Assembly

JN250934 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
25 Sep 87 p 17

["Text" of speech delivered by Crown Prince Hasan at the 42d session of the UN General Assembly in New York on 24 September]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Mr President, it pleases me to extend to you in my name and on behalf of the members of the delegation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan our warmest congratulations on your election as president of the 42d session of the UN General Assembly. [passage omitted]

The eastern Mediterranean area from which I come is witnessing three armed conflicts of types known to have blemished man's history. The first type, which is characterized by internal tension and armed violence, is being witnessed by Lebanon in a terribly tragic manner. In order to fully realize the depth of the Lebanese tragedy, suffice it to say that 95 percent of those killed in this war were innocent men, women, and children. In contrast, civilian casualties in World War I did not excceed 5 percent.

We are further pained and saddened by the fact that the Lebanese tragedy continues to be exacerbated due to some internal forces' insistence on stepping up the conflict on behalf of foreign powers that benefit from its continuation and work for the partitioning Lebanon.

The second type of armed conflict in our region is the one resulting from an attempt by one of the region's states to export its revolution across its border by all possible means, including armed violence. This type is clearly and unequivocally represented by the Iraq-Iran war. We see that religion is being employed to serve political aims, something which doubles our pain and sorrow.

This war, which has thus far afflicted two Muslim states, is spreading to the rest of the Gulf region after entering its 8th year. Therefore, it has begun to pose a serious threat not only to the region in which it is raging, but also to world peace.

Jordan unreservedly supports UN Security Council Resolution No 598 which demands a cease-fire and calls on the two warring parties to withdraw to international borders and set the stage for ending this terrible war which has been fueled by hundreds of thousands of people, including conscripted children.

A war with such dimensions should not be internationalized and the superpowers which play a decisive role in the Security Council should assume a special responsibility toward establishing peace in the region.

The third type of armed conflict is the Arab-Israeli conflict which brings to mind the defunct colonialist era when a state would employ force to occupy the territory of others with the aim of exploiting or annexing it. Israel has been occupying the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Syria's Golan Heights for 20 years now. Meanwhile, UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which constitute a sound basis for establishing peace in the region, are still awaiting implementation.

As Jordanians we have exerted every possible effort to enhance the peace process through a UN-sponsored international conference in which all parties and the Security Council's five permanent members will participate.

Mr President, it has been stated that as long as man's mind is where war originates, likewise it should be where defenses for peace are set up. It is high time for all of us to adapt our thinking to the present reality and admit that all the efforts we are exerting for a better human life will be futile as long as a just and lasting peace is beyond our reach.

Today, we are at the threshold of the 70th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, as well as the 40th anniversary of the resolution to partition Palestine. A few months ago, we marked the 20th anniversary of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and the Syrian [Golan] Heights.

I, personally, represent the fourth generation of my Hashemite family. This family had the honor of leading the great Arab revolt for the sake of the Arab nation's independence, progress, and prosperity. Yet, the Palestine question, which has been the major concern of my family for decades and for which my grandfather paid with his life, is still unresolved. Time has failed to be the remedy which heals wounds. On the contrary, those wounds continue to deepen and bleed despite the passage of 7 decades. There is an entire generation of Palestinians who were born and raised in refugee camps. Under the circumstances they have experienced, these Palestinians have only known death, horror, and deprivation. It is high time the world conscience wakes up, revolts, and acts in a decisive manner to resolve the Palestine question of homeland and refugees.

Mr president, the United Nations has stressed the importance of regional cooperation and it is true in this regard. We in our region respect this principle and look forward to its embodiment. This was the reason for the establishment of the Arab League, but it has become weak with the passage of years, not only as a result of internal disputes and differences, but also as a result of outside influence and interference. Regional cooperation, in our view, is one of the most important pillars of pluralism. But, regrettably, the recent years have witnessed a constant retreat from this concept. Countries, particularly the superpowers, have resorted to bilateral dealings. We view this change as a response to the motives designed to achieve short-term individual interests and not as a result of weakness in pluralism. Pluralism must remain the cornerstone in a world where interests are interlinked.

Undoubtedly, dualism enables the superpowers to achieve their objectives at the expense of the regional order. Moreover, the policy of containment these powers have pursued toward conflicts in our region has given them time to implement their policies. On the other hand, however, the policy of containment has helped entrench the pillars of an abnormal situation. Preserving the fait accompli cannot be a step toward solving the problem but in most cases, will aggravate and complicate the problem. In the Middle East, for example, we see that the time employed to entrench the fait accompli has enhanced the capabilities of irresponsible elements in order to impede peace instead of achieving a tangible progress on the road to peace.

Hence, it can be said that the policy of containment, which obstructs the efforts to achieve a just peace, has contributed to feeding the motives for terrorism and counterterrorism. Moreover, this policy has injected vigor and vitality into all those who make a living out of chaos and social and political tensions. The fait accompli, which has prevailed in the region since the 1960's, is today a source of sectarian divisions, as well as conflicts among minorities and sects, thus paving the way for the policy of divide and rule which can only be applied at the expense of the region's long-term interests. [passage omitted]

Mr President, we in Jordan have consistently adopted a moderate policy in all areas and fields. Likewise, we have followed a consistent foreign policy. Jordan's stands on the topics included in the UN General Assembly's agenda are clear and known. We condemn the policies of racial discrimination and occupation and support the peaceful solution to all problems which, long ago, resulted in conflicts in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. I have not focused on such conflicts not due to a lack of zeal or interest but out of concern for your time. [passage omitted]

Editorial Views Husayn-Al-Asad Talks, Summit

JN250922 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
25 Sep 87 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "The Latakia Talks"]

[Text] The talks between His Majesty King Husayn and President al-Asad in Latakia yesterday were part of the policy Amman is adopting in its Arab relations. This policy is based on direct consultations between the Jordanian leadership and Arab leaders to discuss the accelerating developments in the region and to consolidate a joint view on them. These talks are also an important part of preparing for the emergency Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on 8 November.

Hence, it is natural that the Latakia talks will receive great attention on the Arab level in view of their implications and also in light of the great pan-Arab responsibilities awaiting the Arab leaders when they meet in the expected emergency summit.

It must be recalled that clearing the Arab atmosphere prior to the summit will allow Arab leaders, when they meet in Amman, to devote their time to discussing the challenges and dangers posed to the entire nation. This means that the summit will be a working summit to prepare for a joint Arab role instead of being confined to reconciliation efforts among some Arab leaders. It goes without saying that success in promoting the summit in this manner will not only be a success for Jordan, but for all Arab leaders and the entire Arab world.

In light of this viewpoint, the Latakia talks constitute joint Jordanian-Syrian efforts to render the awaited summit a success. These talks emanate from a common feeling of pan-Arab responsibility and firm determination to shoulder this responsibility so that the summit will fulfill the hopes pinned on it. Moreover, any other Jordanian-Arab talks must stem from the same feeling and aim to achieve the same objective. Hence, the Arab masses will have much hope that the awaited summit will succeed in moving the Arab state of affairs to a new situation so that an Arab formula will emerge and play its role in steering events in a way that will deter the aggressors and contribute to defending the Arab rights and dignity throughout their homeland.

The aggressors, along with those colluding with them, do not hide their concern over the efforts to clear the Arab atmsophere and prepare a sound climate for the summit. Moreover, they view such efforts as a threat to their traditional calculations in the region—calculations which mainly depend on inter-Arab differences. In this regard, these aggressors do not distinguish between the Jordanian-Syrian efforts and any other Arab efforts. While these aggressors continue to reiterate their claim that Arabs have agreed not to agree, there is no doubt that the awaited summit will provide the Arab leaders with an opportunity to undermine these calculations, end the evil that has long harmed Arab dignity, and create a new situation which will herald the break of a new Arab dawn.

Fadlallah Comments on Reported Saudi Operation

NC280651 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Saudi Arabia has denied a *Washington Post* report on the involvement of the Saudi intelligence service in three covert operations planned by former CIA Director William Casey. According to the paper, one of the operations consisted of an attempt to assassinate Hizballah spiritual guide Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah by detonating a booby-trapped car in Bi'r al-'Abd [in West Beirut] in 1985.

An official Saudi spokesman has asserted that all the information on this matter published in the book by U.S. journalist Bob Woodward and reported by the *Washington Post* is completely unfounded.

Shaykh Fadlallah has described these reports as cheap allegations made by intelligence services to distort his positions. In a statement distributed by his information office, Fadlallah affirmed: We are not connected with operations carried out against American and other Western targets. However, such operations are a cause of pride for us and we appreciate them. They express a determination to achieve liberation and independence, Fadlallah's statement added.

Views U.S. Role in Gulf

LD271842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Al-'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, a high-ranking Lebanese cleric, announced at a press conference yesterday that the insistence of international oppression in continuing its intervention in the Persian Gulf is likely to set the entire region on fire. He asserted: Even though the United States is aware that its forces in the Persian Gulf have no chance of success, and having lost all hope in Saddam or any other regime of the region being able to oppose the Islamic Republic of Iran, it has now been forced to enter the scene itself. It hopes to create some cracks in the decisive positions taken by Iran through a show of force.

He added: Any direct clash between the United States and Iran could set the region on fire and set ablaze all the oil wells of the Persian Gulf. An attack against Iran would also put the United States in serious danger throughout the world.

Condemning the U.S. attack against the Iranian cargo ship *Iran Ajr*, he affirmed: The United States has not yet offered any decisive proof of its claim that this ship was carrying out mining operations; furthermore, it was following a number of goals in its attack on the ship. These included overshadowing the important speech delivered by the esteemed Iranian president at the United Nations, a show of force in the region, and the preparation of a propaganda atmosphere to put international pressure on Iran.

In conclusion, Al-'Allamah Fadlallah stressed that the myth of the superpowers' invincibility has now passed. He added: Now the time has come for the Americans to realize the fact that their propaganda power will no longer have any effect on Muslim forces.

Shaykh al-Tufayli Condemns U.S. Attack on Ship

LD280818 Tehran IRNA in English 0800 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Beirut, Sept. 28, IRNA—Prominent Lebanese Alim Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli yesterday described as a 'criminal act' the U.S. attack on the Iranian cargo ship *Iran-Ajr* in the Persian Gulf on September 21.

Al-Tufayli, who was interviewed by IRNA on the occasion of the war week marking the seventh anniversary of the start of the Iraqi-imposed war termed the presence of foreign fleets in the Persian Gulf a 'serious threat' to 'mock' Arab governments in the region.

The despatch of military forces to the Persian Gulf by the global arrogance, aimed at saving Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn from his doomed fate, has exposed the region to serious dangers, he said.

The Lebanese alim also dismissed as 'pure fabrication' a U.S. claim that the *Iran-Ajr* cargo ship had been laying mines in the region, noting that the U.S. attacked the small ship in a bid to show off its power, and expressed confidence that Muslim forces of Iran would take revenge on the U.S.

The pro-U.S. governments in the region, which thought that the presence of foreign fleets in the Persian Gulf would guarantee their thrones, have now come to realize the serious dangers posed to them by the presence of foreign powers, Al-Tufayli said.

Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli who is associated with Lebanon's Hizballah group, described President Khamene'i's Tuesday speech at the United Nations as a disclosure of plots of the global arrogance and towards an assertion of Muslims' rights long since denied by the world colonial powers.

Booby-Trapped Car Explodes in Tripoli; 4 Hurt

NC261441 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Four people were injured when a car exploded at 1625 today. The car, a Mercedes, was rigged with explosive material. It was parked at Tall Square near the Abu Samra car park in Tripoli. The explosion caused several fires and material damage. [passage omitted]

Israeli Gunboat Intercepts Cypriot Ship

NC252002 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] An Israeli gunboat has intercepted a Cypriot ship off the Al-Zahrani coast in the south and subjected it to a meticulous search before leading it to an unknown destination.

Israeli Warships Intercept Commercial Ship

NC270622 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] A resistance group fired several 107-mm rockets at a position jointly held by Israeli occupation troops and their agents in the Jisr al-Hamra' area of the western sector yesterday. Security reports affirmed that the rockets scored direct hits. Shortly afterward, the enemy troops deployed in Al-Bayyadah raked the villages of Al-Mansuri and Majdal Zun.

It has been reported that the Israeli occupation forces strengthened their position on Tallat Rshaf 3 days ago. They brought in additional vehicles and bulldozed the periphery of the position.

In another development, a commercial ship laden with foodstuffs was intercepted by Israeli warships off the Sidon coast yesterday. The ship was meticulously searched before being allowed to continue to the town's port.

Meanwhile, Israeli gunboats were sighted cruising off the southern coast between Ra's al-Naqurah and Al-Zahrani last night.

'Sources' on Working Paper To Resolve Crisis

NC271131 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Information sources have disclosed that President Amin al-Jumayyil will personally attend the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Jordan. While there, the president will raise the Lebanese question and the struggle currently taking place on its soil.

The same sources added that a working paper has been agreed upon by President al-Jumayyil and Saudi, Algerian, and U.S. officials. According to these sources, the paper contains ideas and principles that are currently being discussed with the Syrian side in an attempt to resume dialogue, resolve the Lebanese crisis, form a new government, and prepare the country for new constitutional presidential elections.

'Plan of Action' Prepared

NC280641 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Excerpt] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil affirmed in New York yesterday that opportunities exist which must be seized, despite obstacles and difficulties. During a meeting with a delegation from the Lebanese community, he said: Lebanon has become a battlefield and a land of kidnappers and hostages as a result of the flow of foreign fighters into Lebanon. It has become the victim of their wars, and its true image has been changed. He added: These foreigners must leave us alone; we have a right, like other nations, to self-determination. We will not bargain over our independence, sovereignty, and unity. We will triumph, despite the current difficult and serious stage through which we are passing.

The president affirmed that he has prepared a domestic, regional, and international plan of action and that he has specific proposals to discuss with those concerned with the Lebanese crisis. He said: It would be an honor for me to reach a solution, even if this takes place on the last day of my term.

President al-Jumayyil called on the Lebanese community to strengthen the U.S. Administration's conviction that peace in the Middle East begins in Lebanon. [passage omitted]

'Violent' Amal, Palestinian Clashes Near Sidon

NC271120 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] There has been violent fighting between Amal personnel and Palestinians along the combat lines of the camps east of Sidon since 0800 today. The fighting is concentrated in the area of the Baysur-(al-Muharibiyah) hills. The Palestinians have carried out infiltration operations and captured some positions in the (Al-Muharibiyah) area.

The camps security committee and members of the Nasirite Popular Organization have intervened in an attempt to restore calm.

Group Claims Attack in South; 10 Casualties

NC271617 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] The Forces of the Deprived have announced that one of their groups used rockets and automatic weapons to attack a position manned by Israeli occupation forces and their agents in the border area of Yarin at dawn today. A 15-minute clash ensued, during which the group destroyed a half-track vehicle, damaged a military vehicle, and killed or wounded no fewer than 10 of those manning the post.

The Forces of the Deprived also announced that another group had launched a rocket attack on a position held by Israeli occupation forces in the Balat area, hitting their targets accurately. Fire was seen raging in the position.

The Voice of Hope Radio, organ of the agents, admitted the two attacks, claiming as usual that only one agent had been killed and two others seriously wounded.

Birri Dismisses Al-Jumayyil Remarks on Troops

NC260618 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Attorney Nabih Birri, the Amal Movement leader and minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, said yesterday that the Syrian presence in Lebanon could not be compared with the Israeli occupation. Consequently, Minister Birri maintained, the requested presence of our brothers should never be equated with the imposed enemy occupation. He asserted that it is absolutely impermissible to compare the Palestinian and Iranian presence with the Israeli occupation.

Iraq's 'Aziz Affirms Support, Views Summit

NC280855 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Report by unidentified correspondent in New York]

[Excerpt] Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has met with President al-Jumayyil at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. The meeting ended at 0700 Beirut time [date not given]. 'Aziz emphasized that Iraq supports Lebanon in Arab and international forums and backs the views included in President al-Jumayyil's speech at the United Nations. 'Aziz announced that he had conveyed to President al-Jumayyil greetings from President Saddam Husayn, who has expressed his support for Lebanon. Upon leaving Al-Jumayyil's hotel suite, 'Aziz made the following statement:

[Begin recording] ['Aziz] I was honored this evening to meet with His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil and to convey to him special greetings from his brother, His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq, in which he expressed his fraternal good wishes for Lebanon. I briefed his excellency on the current discussions at the UN Security Council with regard to the Iraq-Iran war and the strong international determination to end this conflict in accordance with Security Council Resolution 598. I also discussed with his excellency those Arab developments which concern Iraq and Lebanon. I emphasized to him that Iraq strongly supports its brothers in Lebanon in their quest to maintain Lebanon's security, stability, and unity. I asserted that Iraq respects Lebanon's legitimate authorities and the Lebanese people's free will to live in independence and to confront their current problems and difficulties.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency, have you briefed President al-Jumayyil on Iraq's position on the Arab summit?

['Aziz] Yes, we also discussed the upcoming summit. We hope this summit will provide an opportunity for Arab leaders to meet and to exchange views in order to confront the problems plaguing us.

[Reporter] Will the Lebanon question be on the summit's agenda?

['Aziz] As you know, Jordan will host the summit. His Majesty King Husayn is handling the communications entailed in making the summit arrangements. Therefore, I cannot speak of the agenda now.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, how do you assess the views included in President al-Jumayyil's speech at the United Nations?

['Aziz] As I have informed his excellency the president, we support Lebanon in all Arab and international forums. The Lebanese president's speech expressed the position of a fraternal Arab country. Hence, we support his demands with regard to both Lebanese and regional issues. Our views coincide with the correct Lebanese assessment of these issues.

[Reporter] There have been some Arab reservations with regard to holding the summit. If these reservations remain, will you persist in your determination to hold the conference?

['Aziz] First of all, it is not a question of insistence. A decision was made to convene the summit. Only one country had reservations about that. The summit will be held at the scheduled time and place, God willing.

[Reporter] Thank you. [End recording] [passage omitted]

Nasirite Organization Bans Weapons in Sidon

NC261755 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] In the south, the outskirts of Haris came under artillery shelling from the agent militia positions in Tallat al-Huqban and Tallat al-Khazzan. Only material damage was sustained. Israeli occupation forces surrounded Kafr Kila and searched houses there. The occupation forces also searched Shab'a and then imposed a curfew.

It has been learned that the enemy forces are massing vehicles, building roads, and confiscating land in areas near the villages of Blida, Hula, and Al-Tayyibah.

Meanwhile, a resistance group attacked a position manned jointly by Lahd militiamen and the occupation forces in Jisr al-Hamra'. Flames were seen rising from the scene of the attack. Resistance men also attacked a Lahd mechanized patrol on the Blida-Hula road. One of the militiamen was killed, another three wounded, and a vehicle damaged.

In another development, the Nasirite Popular Organization issed an order this afternoon banning the carrying of weapons in the city of Sidon. The organization explained that this measure was prompted by concern for the safety of the citizens and by a desire that economic and social life should proceed normally in the city. Violators of this injunction, the organization stated, will be detained. The organization also said that cars without license plates will not be allowed to circulate in the city streets.

Al-Hashim Signs 1988 Budget; Deficit Noted

NC260603 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Acting Finance Minister Joseph al-Hashim has signed the 1988 budget bill and referred it to the prime minister. The budget, which totals 70 billion pounds, has an estimated deficit of 38.03 billion pounds.

Junblatt Reportedly Leaves for Libya 26 Sep

NC261958 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] According to the *International News Agency*, Minister Walid Junblatt left for Libya today in response to an invitation from Libyan officials. The visit takes place at a time when a second group of PSP fighters is preparing to travel to Libya to fight against Chad.

Information Minister Leaves for Saudi Arabia

NC271703 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 sep 87

[Text] Information Minister Joseph Skaf left Beirut for Saudi Arabia tonight. He will meet with King Fahd and Saudi officials to discuss conditions in Lebanon and the Arab region. Information matters of concern to Lebanon and Saudi Arabia will also be examined.

Maronite Prelate To Tour Europe, USSR

NC271042 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Patriarch Sfayr departed from Lebanon via Beirut airport for Rome today. In addition to Italy, the patriarch's foreign tour will take him to the USSR and France.

Al-Shar' Meets With USSR's Shevardnadze at UN

JN261254 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met in New York with USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze last night. Also present at the meeting were Dia'ullah al-Fattal, assistant foreign minister; Vladimir Petrovsky, Soviet deputy foreign minister; the permanent USSR representative at the United Nations; the assistant to the head of the Mideast desk at the Soviet Foreign Ministry; and Dr Sami Jamil, the charge d'affaires at the Syrian mission in New York. They reviewed the current international situation and the Soviet initiative on setting up a comprehensive world security order, as well as UN General Assembly work.

Their discussions focused on the situation in the Mideast and the Arabian Gulf, as well as relations between the two friendly countries. They shared the view that a UN-sponsored conference with real powers should be held to work out a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement in the Mideast. They also discussed consultations in the UN Security Council on Gulf developments.

Shevardnadze expressed his country's support for President Hafiz al-Asad's initiative, which was placed on the agenda of the UN General Assembly, regarding the convening of a UN-sponsored conference to distinguish between terrorism and people's struggles for liberation. At the conclusion of the meeting, the ministers voiced their satisfaction with the progress being made in the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in various areas.

Vice President Khaddam Returns From Libya

JN270072 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Chief of Staff General Hikmat al-Shihabi returned to Damascus yesterday evening following a short visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyah. During this visit, the vice president conveyed a message from His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Talks at the meeting dealt with the current Arab situation, the general regional situation, and issues of mutual interest.

The vice president and the chief of staff arrived in Tripoli yesterday morning. Upon arrival they were received by Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, a number of senior officers, and the head of the Syrian Arab Relations Bureau [embassy] in Tripoli.

Receives Iranian Ambassador

LD271707 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Damascus, Sept. 27, IRNA—Iran's Ambassador to Damascus Mohammad Hasan Akhtari conferred with Syrian Vice-President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on Tehran-Damascus friendly ties, here Sunday. The two sides stressed on the two countries' resistance against imperialist and Zionist moves and exchanged views on tension created by foes of Muslim and Arab countries led by the U.S.

In another development, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akhtari held talks with Syrian Minister of Awqaf (Religious Affairs) Mohammad Muhammad al-Khatib on bilateral relations on the same day.

Foreign Minister Receives EC Commissioner

JN271628 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received at his residence in New York today EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson. Diya'llah al-Fattal, assistant foreign minister, also attended the meeting. During the meeting, they discussed ways to bolster relations between Syria and the EC states. They also touched on the current situation between Syria and the EC states, the international situation in general, and the situation in the Middle East in particular, as well as a number of subjects of mutual concern.

USSR Industrial Delegation Arrives in Damascus

Talks To Boost Cooperation

JN251600 Damascus Domestic service in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Mr Khomenko, deputy chief of the State Planning Committee in the USSR [name and title as heard], arrived in Damascus today leading an industrial and technical delegation for talks with Syrian officials to boost industrial cooperation between the two friendly countries. Khomenko told SANA that this trip is to follow through with the agreements reached during the visit to the USSR by President Hafiz al-Asad last April, as well as to discuss bilateral cooperation in industrial production.

Talks Begin in Damascus

JN261752 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Syrian-Soviet talks on industrial and technical cooperation began at the Ministry of Industry today. The Syrian side was led by Industry Minister Engineer 'Ali al-Tarabulsi and the Soviet side by Khomenko, deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee [title as heard]. The talks were also attended by members of the two participating delegations and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus. The two sides discussed the implementation of the agreements signed between the two countries during President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Moscow in April. The two sides also expressed a desire to sign a protocol that would increase the current level of bilateral cooperation to secure raw materials for a number of factories in Syria from Soviet sources.

Economy Minister Receives Delegation

JN261758 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1610 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Damascus, 26 Sep (SANA)—Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, received Khomenko, deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee [title as received], and the industrial delegation accompanying him this evening. The two sides reviewed the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two friendly countries. They also discussed ways to promote these relations in the future, especially with regard to industrial projects and securing the necessary raw materials for a number of Syria industries in light of the agreements signed between the two countries during President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to Moscow.

Afghanistan

Najib Speech at Military Political University

LD261752 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Speech by Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, on 24 September at the inauguration of the Military Political University—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed comrades, dear cofighter friends, esteemed guests, comrades, officers, teachers, students, soldiers, workers, and personnel of the university.

It is a pleasant duty for all of us today to open the doors of the new palace of military science, which is tasked with training capable political workers and brave and resolute party strugglers. The creation of the Military Political University is a new and bright page in the history of our country and its Armed Forces—the safe defenders of the gains of the April Revolution and the vanguard of the party in its struggle against the imperialist conspiracy, regional reaction, and internal counterrevolutionaries.

As the war is continuing, we are duty-bound to constantly strengthen our brave army, the Russian-trained police, and the organs of state security. Comrades, the need for a military political university arises from the fact that today the Armed Forces are the determining force in consolidating the people's power. The role and importance of the Armed Forces increases under conditions of national reconciliation. This role and importance is also increased because imperialism, regional reaction, and the internal counterrevolutionaries are intensifying their interference in the life of our country. Therefore, they resort to all the dirty tricks of subversion, from conspiracies right up to the killing of peace-loving compatriots and destruction and sabotage. However, without considering the various types of the enemy's crimes, we have achieved an end to the fratricidal war and the bloodshed. Our people and the Armed Forces defend the gains of the April Revolution, and the peace and prosperity of their children.

Dear comrades, I want to speak today about the teachers who are entrusted with the important duty of training our future soldiers and political workers. Your university's teachers have high qualifications and a self-sacrificing spirit. We mention today with full satisfaction the names of Lieutenant Generals (Mohammad Yunos) and (Mohammad Khaled), who enjoy high military readiness and qualifications and who have been honored with state medals. Similarly, we recall with satisfaction the university's teachers Lieutenant General (Abdol Sabur), Senior Captain (Mohammad Jan), (Captain Lajward), and others whose high qualifications and self-sacrifice in the cause of revolution distinguish them.

Teachers should display total self-sacrifice in training the political party's strugglers, for the future of our Armed Forces is connected with the work of our teachers today. Therefore, the Central Committee asks the teachers of the Military Political University to constantly update their professional knowledge and to make full use of all military and social science gains. We are sure teachers will transfer their knowledge to students persistently and maintain contact with them everyday, in addition to the normal teaching hours, and train their students with a spirit of self-sacrifice to the homeland and the party.

Today, the PDPA Central Committee draws the attention of the university's students to the need for them, during their education, to acquire good political military knowledge, a clear view of the world, a deep understanding of the contemporary situation, the aims of the PDPA, and their future responsibilities.

Students of the Military Political University! You are duty-bound to be worthy and brave officers of the Armed Forces and to have a firm revolutionary belief and be capable of struggle for a bright future for your people.

Comrades, while opening our country's first military political university, we know very well that this educational establishment has some foundation from the past. The worthy predecessors of your university were the political colleges of the Military University and the Sarandoy Academy. The graduates of these colleges have shown much heroism. Most of them are firm propagandists of politics in the units and companies of the Army and the Sarandoy. They are bold teachers and organizers. They have fought and are fighting bravely with the enemies of the homeland. We pay respect to them and bow before those who have sacrificed their lives and have been martyred for the ideas of revolution and the prosperity of the Afghan people. They include graduates of the Military University's political college. First Lieutenant (Dadullah), Second Lieutenant (Rostam), and Second Lieutenant (Zikria). Graduates of the Sarandoy Academy's political college have also shown heroism and bravery. Most of them are distinguished by a deep feeling of responsibility toward their military duties, a belief in the ideas of revolution, good professional readiness, and love for the homeland. The party and the state attach great value to their bravery and gallantry and honor them with medals and decorations. We can mention among them Captain (Mohammad Sayed Teriwal), Senior Captain (Mohammad Salam Sanger), and Second Lieutenant (Mira Khan), who were martyred in the path of revolution. Today, the first year students, who are the most competent representatives of our country's youth, are taking their places. These youths, who are primarily graduates of (Mohamamd Sabur) high school, have been awarded medals and letters of commendation for their high education. In short, you have personalities in whose footsteps you should follow and whom you should emulate.

Our great neighbor and friend, the Soviet Union, gives us great assistance. It is no accident that in this glorious meeting today, there is a delegation representing the Military Political University of Minsk, which has taken up the guardianship of the DRA Armed Forces Political

Military University. They are here to assist us in resolving the great and responsible task of training political workers for the Army, the Sarandoy, and for the organs of state security.

Allow me, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, to express sincere appreciation to the collective of the Soviet Military Political University for their assistance and support.

Comrades, the opening of the DRA Armed Forces Military Political University is taking place at time when the party and the state are implementing the national reconciliation policy. The important events of this process include general discussion on the DRA's new draft constitution and on preparations for a second nationwide conference of the PDPA. The discussion on the draft constitution and the preparations for the party's second conference have shown that all party members, all true patriots of Afghanistan, approve and unanimously put into practice the national reconciliation policy, and the policy of ending the fratricidal war, and support the rapid establishment of peace in our territory.

At present the commission for drafting the constitution (?unifies) all the views and proposals which have been put forward during the discussion on the draft constitution.

Taking these proposals and views into consideration, the draft constitution will be completed and presented to a nationwide conference. Then, in accordance with the historical tradition of Afghanistan, a grand assembly will be held to assess and approve the new constitution, and to elect the president of the country.

The nationwide party conference, in addition to assessing the new draft constitution, will assess the duties of the PDPA with regard to speeding up the national reconciliation process. It will also make adjustments and changes to the PDPA's action program and charter. Also, decisions will be made in connection with a number of other important issues.

It is natural that an accurate study of the new draft constitution, the documents and resolutions of the nationwide party conference, and the grand assembly will have an important place in the teaching process of your university. Also, officers, peasants, workers, and personnel should study all these documents and resolutions deeply and comprehensively.

Esteemed comrades, dear cofighter friends, permit me on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Government from the bottom of my heart to congratulate all Army and Sarandoy personnel, and the state security bodies on this auspicious event—the opening of the country's first military political university.

Long live our heroic Armed Forces, the safe defender of the gains of the April Revolution!

Long live the national reconciliation policy, the only path of peace and blossoming of our people!

Wakil Holds Talks With Counterparts at UN

GDR, Kuwaiti, Burkinabe Talks

LD251043 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Comrade Abdol Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA foreign minister, yesterday met with Oskar Fischer, GDR foreign minister, at UN Headquarters.

During the meeting, which was held in a friendly and understanding atmosphere, the two ministers exchanged views on a series of common international issues, friendly relations, and reciprocal advantageous cooperation.

The two sides expressed their readiness for further cooperation in the international arena within the framework of the United Nations Organization.

At this meeting the GDR foreign minister invited Comrade Abdol Wakil to visit the GDR. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

Comrade Abdol Wakil yesterday afternoon met with Laetare Guissou, external affairs and cooperation minister [title as received] of Burkina Faso. He also met with Silvino Luz, Cape Verde foreign minister.

During these meetings, which took place in a friendly and understanding atmosphere, Comrade Abdol Wakil briefed the ministers on recent developments in the DRA and its surroundings, in particular the gains of the national reconciliation policy, the Geneva talks, and the principles of the DRA's peaceful foreign policy.

The foreign ministers of Burkina Faso and Cape Verde expressed their governments' support for the national reconciliation policy and for restoring calm to the DRA.

At these meetings, stress was placed on developing bilateral relations between the DRA and Burkina Faso, and between the DRA and Cape Verdi.

According to another report, Comrade Abdol Wakil met this afternoon at UN Headquarters with Rashleigh Jackson, Guyanese foreign minister. At this meeting Comrade Abdol Wakil explained recent developments in the DRA, in particular the gains of the national reconciliation policy, the process of the Geneva talks, and the principles of the DRA's foreign policy. The foreign minister of Guyana welcomed the policy of national reconciliation as a step toward the cessation of bloodshed and the restoration of peace and security in the country, and efforts by the DRA for a political solution to events around Afghanistan. He expressed his country's support in this respect. At this meeting views were exchanged concerning bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.

This afternoon Comrade Abdol Wakil met Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti foreign minister. At UN Headquarters, he then met with Mochtar Kusmaatmadia, Indonesian foreign minister.

At these friendly meetings which took place in an atmosphere of understanding, views were exchanged on a series of international issues of common interest, and the situation in southwest Asia. At these meetings the sides discussed bilateral relations between the DRA and Kuwait, and the DRA and Indonesia.

Congo, Argentine, SRV Talks

LD262240 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Comrade Abdol Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and foreign minister, met with Antoine Ndinga-Oba, Congo's minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, at UN Headquarters today. The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere.

During the meeting the DRA minister of foreign affairs briefed his counterpart on recent developments in the country, especially the national reconciliation policy, the events around Afghanistan and the process of the Geneva talks.

The Congolese foreign minister then explained that his government fully supports the DRA's policy of national reconciliation and wishes further reciprocal and advantageous cooperation with the DRA.

The DRA foreign minister also met with A.C.S. Hameed, Sri Lankan foreign minister, and exchanged views with him about regional issues and other subjects of common interest.

Comrade Abdol Wakil also met with Dante Caputo, Argentina's minister of foreign relations and worship, at UN Headquarters and briefed him on recent developments in the country, especially the policy of national reconciliation and the intensification of foreign interference in the DRA's internal affairs.

The Argentine foreign minister said his country regards the DRA's policy of national reconciliation as a correct and rational policy. He also stressed the broadening of relations between the DRA and Argentina.

The DRA foreign minister also met with Dawa Tsering, foreign minister of Bhutan, at UN Headquarters today. Both sides exchanged views about international and regional issues and wished for further broadening of relations between the two countries.

Comrade Abdol Wakil also met in a friendly and comradely atmosphere at UN Headquarters Comrade Ton Nu Thi Minh leader of the Vietnamese Socialist Republic's delegation at the 42d UN General Assembly session. Wakil briefed the other side about the policy of national reconciliation and the other side expressed the all-round support of his country for the DRA's policy of national reconciliation and wished for a further broadening of relations between the two countries.

Comrade Abdol Wakil, also met with Isodoro Octavio Malmierca Peoli, Cuban foreign minister. The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere and Wakil briefed him about the recent developments in the country, especially the policy of national reconciliation. On behalf of his country the Cuban foreign minister expressed all-round support for the DRA's policy of national reconciliation and said he regards it as the only way to end the war and the bloodshed in our country. Comrade Abdol Wakil also met with the chairman of the 42d UN General Assembly and exchanged views with him on topics of mutual interest.

Hungarian, Cypriot, PLO Talks

LD280842 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] At UN Headquarters today, DRA Foreign Minister Abdol Wakil met with Guinean Foreign Minister Jean Traore. During the meeting, Comrade Abdol Wakil informed Traore about the recent developments in the country, the policy of national reconciliation, and the situation concerning Afghanistan.

The Guinean foreign minister, in expressing support for the policy of national reconciliation, emphasized the importance of bilateral Guinean-Afghan relations.

The DRA foreign minister also met with Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi. At the meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on international topics of mutual interest.

According to another report from New York, Comrade Abdol Wakil today met with Cypriot Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou. The sides exchanged views on international affairs and topics of mutual interest.

Comrade Abdol Wakil today met with Faruq Qaddumi, PLO minister of foreign affairs, and exchanged views on international and regional topics.

According to another report from New York, the DRA foreign minister met with the Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal at UN Headquarters. At the meeting, Comrade Abdol Wakil informed him of the recent developments in the country, in particular the policy of national reconciliation and the questions concerning the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan. The Bolivian minister expressed support for the DRA policy of national reconciliation and emphasized the importance of further cooperation between the DRA and Bolivia.

Hazarah Nationality Assembly Resolution Issued

LD241714 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Dear listeners: The participants in the first nationwide assembly of the Hazarah nationality has approved a resolution to which we draw your attention.

Resolution of the nationwide assembly of the Hazarah nationality, dated 21 September 1987, Kabul city:

The nationwide assembly of Hazarah nationality, attended by the representatives, ulema and clergymen, social figures, tradesmen, guilds members, national

investors and intelligentsia was convened in Kabul city, the capital of the revolutionary Afghanistan 20-21 September 1987.

This glorious assembly, which convened on the basis of a decision made by the May 1987 PDPA Central Committee Plenum, was opened with a valuable and comprehensive speech by Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

This assembly was convened in a free, democratic, and fraternal atmosphere and discussed the urgent and major issues concerning various aspects of the life, rights, and responsibilities of the Hazarah people.

In light of the reconciliation policy, the assembly assessed the issues of national reconciliation; enforcing the cease-fire; consolidating and strengthening national sovereignty; foiling the aggressors' intervention; the socioeconomic, political, and cultural growth of Hazarahjat, the Hazarah people's active participation in the administration of the country's political, economic, social, and cultural affairs; and participation in the defense of the country.

The possibility of transforming Hazarahjat into a region of peace and security, which will be realized by the forces of the Hazarah nationality, as well as the extension of government assistance for health, education and training, agricultural growth and development, cattle-breeding, light and handicraft industries, exploiting mines and economic resources, renovating and building roads, using water resources and pastures better, and renewing administrative organizations on the basis of the national characteristics of Hazarah, were discussed, considered, and agreed upon at the nationwide assembly of the Hazarah nationality.

In fully approving the opening and main speeches of the assembly which assessed and comprehensively considered the urgent vital and destiny-making issues of this persecuted nationality, the nationwide assembly of Hazarah nationality decided the following after comprehensive discussion:

We, the participants of the nationwide assembly of the Hazarah nationality, completely approve and support the foreign and domestic policy of the DRA; and we regard the national reconciliation policy as an Islamic and humane policy based on the principles of the sacred religion of Islam and on the worthy traditions of the people, which are the guarantors of peace and calm and secure the rights of the country's nationalities, tribes, and clans. We approve of this policy and will do our best for its implementation.

We, the participants of the assembly, ask the DRA Government to enforce Ja'fari jurisprudence [Islamic Shi'ite law] in the judicial system of the courts which have jurisdiction over the Hazarah-inhabited regions where the population follows the Ethna 'Ashara [Shi'ite sect believing in 12 Imams] religion. We regard this as a sign of the wisdom and justice of our revolutionary government.

We, the participants in the nationwide assembly of Hazarah nationality, request that those Hazarah-inhabited regions which were annexed to other provinces on the basis of the antinational policy of the past oppressive governments be organized in accordance with national characteristics—as Hazarah-inhabited provinces.

The party leadership and the revolutionary government expressed their readiness to take measures in order to remove socioeconomic and cultural backwardness in Hazarahjat by opening and equipping schools, hospitals, and veterinary centers; by repairing and building roads, strengthening agriculture, cattle-breeding, and handicraft industries; and by extracting natural resources in Hazarah-inhabited regions.

We, the participants in this assembly promise to work, through the convocation of elections to the local organs, for the strengthening and further consolidation of DRA revolutionary sovereignty. We will try to elect our best representatives to the local organs of state power and administration in the Hazarahjat regions, and by the convocation of peace assemblies and the creation of national reconciliation commissions we will discharge our Islamic and national duty in safeguarding the independence, freedom, territorial integrity, national sovereignty, and unity of all the people of Afghanistan.

We regard increasing the percentage of Hazarah nationality cadres in the DRA Armed Forces, in the Foreign Ministry, and in other organs, as reflected in the speeches by the party and government leadership at this assembly, as corresponding with the wishes of Hazarah people and we support it.

We, the participants in the nationwide assembly of Hazarah nationality, comprehensively support the traditional friendship and good-neighborly relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union inherited from our forefathers and ancestors. We affirm the disinterested assistance of the Soviet Union in the sociopolitical, economic, and cultural sphres—especially military assistance to Afghanistan which is being given in accordance with the DRA request to foil the foreign aggression against our country. We regard relations and friendly links between the two countries as harmonious with the national interests of the people of Afghanistan. We seek the further consolidation and expansion of these relations, as always, on the basis of reciprocal respect and equal rights.

We, the participants in the assembly, believe that the central council of the toiling Hazarah nationality, which reflects the wishes of these people, is and will continue to carry out its mission in the interest of consolidating relations between the government and the people of Hazarah.

We, the participants in the nationwide assembly of Hazarah nationality, resolutely support the constructive proposals and realistic position of the DRA in the Geneva talks. We strongly denounce all expansionist

maneuvers aimed at creating a stalemate in the talks working for the resolution of events surrounding Afghanistan, and seriously ask the Governments of Pakistan and Iran to show constructive reaction as soon as possible to the flexibility and realistic proposals of the Afghan side in the Geneva talks, and to undertake in a credible and guaranteed accord, the cessation of all kinds of interference and not to repeat this.

In conclusion, we the participants in this nationwide assembly, express our appreciation and gratitude to the PDPA Central Committee and to the DRA Government which prepared the ground for the convocation of such a glorious and unprecedented assembly in the history of the Hazarah nationality. We pray to Almighty God to increase the victories of the party, revolutionary government, and people of Afghanistan.

Comment on Reagan's 'Hypocritical' UN Speech

LD251401 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Kabul, September 24, *Bakhtar*—A political observer of *Bakhtar* writes:

Addressing the 42nd session of the UN General Assembly on September 21, Ronald Reagan, the U.S. President, hypocritically strove to exploit this important session which is dealing with the major and epic-making issues of the world for achieving his own ominous objective. This is not the first time that Reagan administration uses such international forums for the distortion of public opinion and detraction of the attention of the forums from the key questions and to instigate the UN member countries against the peaceful country of Afghanistan. This is an attempt to justify the undeclared war which has been launched by the U.S. Administration against Afghanistan in the past nine years and has caused the deaths of thousands of Afghans and huge financial losses. He tries to cover up the U.S. collosal military assistance offered to the extremist groups for the continuation of the undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan.

Ronald Reagan in his speech impudently described the humane policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan as a measure for the survival of the state power and judged as if this policy has been failed. Such false allegation has been levelled at a time when the policy of national reconciliation has been strongly supported inside and outside the country and our people have scored great successes in the implementation of this humane policy.

Ronald Reagan who tried in his speech to cover up his sinister aims in the fold of peaceful words failed to conceal his real objective which is the continuation of the undeclared war against Afghanistan till the last Afghan.

Ronald Reagan praised Pakistan in exchange for the sycophant and super (?derogatory) services continuously rendered by the Pakistani regime to its imperialistic patrons. On the one hand, Pakistan has been converted to a springboard of aggressions of imperialism against Afghanistan and on the other hand, the Pakistan's strategic regions have been put at the disposal of imperialism for its military use aimed at securing regional hegemony.

In lieu of such sycophant services, the Pakistani authorities, on the one hand, receive economic and military aids and on the other, its patrons turn a blind eye to Pakistan's strivings to produce an atomic bomb. The activities of Pakistan and its supporters have seriously jeopardized peace and security in the region and the world at large. But, the Government of the DRA has always upheld its principled position against all the blackmails and threats and has not refrained from any necessary patience and principled flexibility.

The efforts of the DRA in the context of Geneva talks with Pakistan and the proclamation of the policy of national reconciliation leaves no doubt that the DRA wants peace and in order to achieve this end it has proposed compromise.

For instance, in the latest round of Geneva talks the Afghan side once again displayed flexibility, if it were reciprocated by goodwill on the side of Pakistan the still unsolved questions could find solution.

However, regrettably the organisers of the undeclared war of imperialism and reaction have continuously endeavoured to deter the solution of the disputes through peaceful means by resorting to intimidation and blackmail against revolutionary Afghanistan.

Ronald Reagan should understand that all the efforts of imperialism since the revolution were doomed and failed to break the will of the people and it will be so in the future as well.

India

Spokesman Condemns Fiji Military Coup

BK251619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] India has expressed concern over the takeover of the government in Fiji by the Army. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today, an official spokesman said India strongly condemns that the Armed Forces have again seized power in the country. It is particularly tragic that this should happen at a time when negotiations are on between the political parties to bring the country back to the path of national reconciliation.

The spokesman said India hopes that better sense will prevail and the process of reconciliation will be resumed to restore peace and harmony in Fiji.

Junejo UN Remarks on Kashmir Protested

BK250759 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] India took strong exception to the mentioning of the so-called Kashmir question by the Pakistan prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, in his address to

the UN General Assembly yesterday. The Indian ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Gharekhan, reminded the Assembly that the Simla agreement provided the basis for resolving outstanding issues between the two countries through bilateral negotiations and peaceful means. He regretted the reference to the so-called Kashmir question by Mr Junejo at the world body.

Public Firm Produces Maraging Steel

BK271618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] The public sector undertaking Mishra Dhatu Nigam—Midhani—in Hyderabad has developed and manufactured a very sophisticated special alloy steel used in satellite launch vehicles and nuclear projects. Only a few advanced countries have the capability of manufacturing this material, known as maraging steel. This premier-grade material is being supplied by Midhani to the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center for its Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-3, program in the form of rings, plates, and (?filler) wire. Midhani also manufactures a wide range of special metals and superalloys for several key industries in aeronautics, space, atomic energy, and chemical engineering sectors.

Iran

Peres, Khamene'i Hold Secret Meeting

LD261040 Kuwait KUNA in English 0938 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 26 (KUNA)—A Kuwaiti daily Saturday said that Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i had secretly met for three hours in New York last week with Israeli Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

The paper quoted a senior official in the U.S. State Department as saying that they discussed the Gulf war and the situation in the Middle East. They agreed on the dispatch of a high ranking Iranian delegation to Tel Aviv next month to hold more talks with Israeli officials.

Peres also pledged during the meeting that he will urge the U.S. Administration to improve American-Iranian relations and promised to send a new Israeli arms shipment to Tehran in return for allowing more Iranian Jews to immigrate to Israel.

Asked by the paper how was the meeting arranged, the source said that it was prepared during the recent visit to Tehran by former director general of the Foreign Ministry David Kimche.

The source noted that Peres later briefed U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on outcome of the meeting and added that Shultz had agreed to keeping the meeting a secret to remain the channel of contacts open between Washington and Tehran through friendly third parties.

Peres told Shultz, according to the source that Khamene'i expressed readiness to help secure the release of American hostages in Lebanon in return for supplying his country with American Hawk anti-aircraft missiles, spare parts to Phantom warplanes and surface to surface missiles.

U.S. Media 'Fabrications'

LD271946 Tehran IRNA in English 1856 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 27, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i's speech at the U.N. General Assembly, his press conference and interviews with the U.S. television networks were given a wide coverage in the world's mass media, leaving a very positive impression.

Prior to Khamene'i's historical address, U.S. plots to overshadow the Iranian president's speech and force the Islamic Republic to back away from its avowed stands had caused some sections of the mass media to fancy that Iran may submit to U.S. pressures.

The U.S. T.V. network 'CNN' whose programmes are broadcast nationwide as well as in many parts of the globe and also Italy's T.V. Channel 3 telecast Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i's statements live, and as a result 'unwittingly' mirrored the Islamic Republic's voice of innocence as well as the Islamic Revolution's power so widely.

To atone for this big defeat, the U.S. propaganda horns are now attempting to indulge in intensive ballyhoo in a bid to tamper with the public opinion. They are desperately resorting to fabrications.

Some disreputed sections of the mass media, for instance, have made allegations that Zionist officals met the Iranian president and still other sections are vainly trying to add fuel to such lies.

These plots will lead but to a scandal for them such as their previous conspiracies and the public opinions will be informed of the true nature of their poisonous propaganda.

Khomeyni Said Suffering From Brain Tumor

LD260721 Paris Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Ayatollah Khomeyni is reportedly suffering from a brain tumor. This was reported by the French weekly *L'Express*, which indicated that a well-known Austrian doctor had been contacted by the Tehran Government. Khomeyni, aged 86, may undergo surgery at the beginning of November.

Car Bomb Explodes in Tehran; No Casualties

LD261519 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA—A booby trapped car went off on Keshavarz Boulevard in west-central Tehran at 14:55 hours local time (11:25 GMT) Saturday, shattering windows of nearby houses and damaging some parked cars. There were no casualties in the explosion. The sound of the explosion was heard in central parts of the capital.

U.S. Held Responsible

LD270628 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 27, IRNA—A bomb planted in a parked car went off at a Tehran street Saturday afternoon, causing no casualties but inflicting minor damage, an informed source at the Islamic Revolution's committee said here Sunday.

The source said the 'agents of international arrogance had planted the bomb upon suggestion of the great Satan the criminal U.S. to show their subservience to the U.S. and their anger of resistance of devoted Muslim people.'

Kharrazi Views Possible Declaration of War

LD261212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] The warmongers ruling over the United States, through their hasty action in destroying the *Iran-Ajr* cargo ship, and while eliminating the evidence of this crime, endeavored to eclipse the humility imposed on that country at the UN Security Council.

Mr Kharrazi, supervisor of the War Information Headquarters [WIH] in an interview this morning concerning the sinking of the nonmilitary *Iran-Ajr* by the U.S. Navy, said: As the accusations by the United States against the Islamic Republic of Iran were baseless from the very start, it was predicted that Washington would eliminate or destroy, in one form or another, the most telling evidence in this connection. Presenting and displaying the *Iran-Ajr* merchant vessel would have proved that the comments of Islamic Republic of Iran officials are valid and would have disgraced Washington.

Stressing that the Islamic Republic of Iran considers this act by the United States to be provocative and carried out to mark the beginning of the expansion of tension in the Persian Gulf, the WIH supervisor said: The U.S. act of attacking, capturing, and destroying the nonmilitary *Iran-Ajr* is an open violation of all international maritime laws and conventions. With this insolent and warmongering act which is a kind of piracy, the United States has made these international waters insecure and has introduced a new strain of deceit on the seas to the point that at present any vessel in the free international waters may come under attack on any pretext and all the evidence on board that vessel may be eliminated and destroyed.

Referring to the point that by this step the United States endeavored to overcome the humiliation it suffered in the Security Council in its attempt to impose an arms embargo against Iran, Kharrazi said: The *Iran-Ajr*, as confirmed by the Lloyds shipping company, has been registered since 1982 as a load carrying vessel, and belongs to the shipping company of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In light of its destruction by the United States, Iran reserves the right to demand compensation, reparation, and to retaliate in kind.

However, what the United States must now clarify is this: Have they, by this action, officially declared war on the Islamic Republic of Iran or not?

Attack Will Not Go 'Unanswered'

LD251646 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA—A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) termed today latest statement of the U.S. White House spokesman as "an apparrent reason which dismissed the U.S. baseless allegations on mining operations in the Persian Gulf by an Iranian cargo ship '*Iran Ajr*'. [no closing quotation marks as received]

The White House spokesman stated Thursday that the films allegedly taken from mine-laying operations by an Iranian ship in the Persian Gulf had been damaged and cannot be processed.

"However there were no films available at all, and the U.S. allegations arose from imagination of the U.S. Administration," the WIH spokesman pointed.

The U.S. with absolutely no evidence accused the crewmen of the ship of laying mines, and tried to prove its claim by showing several mines on board the ship. There is no reason to prove existence of the mines on board the vessel, said the spokesman.

He added, in case we accept that the ship was carrying mines it cannot be concluded that she was mining the waters. He further stressed "the U.S. unwise attack on the Iranian ship will undoubtedly be retaliated".

General Says U.S., NATO 'Declaring War'

LD260620 Tehran IRNA in English 0608 GMT 26 Sep 87

["U.S. NATO Members at Persian Gulf To Fight Iran—Sayyad-Shirazi"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Khorramabad, Lorestan Prov., Sept. 26, IRNA—Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defence Council Brigadier General 'Ali Sayyad-Shirazi said here Friday that military presence of enemies of the Islamic revolution in the Persian Gulf had further revealed their ill intentions to the world, adding that their presence was in fact declaring war against Iran.

Sayyad-Shirazi, here to attend war week ceremonies, added that U.S. and NATO members are in the Persian Gulf to subdue the Islamic Republic.

Referring to the Security Council Resolution 598, Brigadier General Sayyad-Shirazi said that international arrogance which intended to push Iran into negotiations, decided to review the resolution to introduce the aggressor when faced with Iran's active diplomacy.

As a Hajj pilgrim this year who has witnessed massacre of a large number of other pilgrims, Sayyad-Shirazi stressed that the deplorable incident had loaded heavy responsibility on the shoulders of world Muslims.

Khamene'i Calls Ship Scuttling 'Piracy'

LD271534 Tehran IRNA in English 1526 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 27, IRNA—President and head of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i today described the scuttling of the Iranian cargo ship *Iran-Ajr* by the U.S. in the Persian Gulf as an act of "piracy" rather than a military move.

Speaking at a cabinet session here, the president said if the Americans had not been telling lies from the beginning and had evidences to justify their claims, they would not have exploded the hijacked ship.

The U.S., by erasing all traces of its crime, has raised questions as to the validity of its claim before its own public opinion as well as that of the whole world.

Also speaking at the session was Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi who said President Khamene'i's speech at the United Nations proved that the Iranian nation will neither back away from its principal stands nor retreat under any political or military pressure.

The premier also called on Iranian political and propagation organizations to seriously follow up the line drawn up by the President's speech.

'Iran-Ajr' Crew Returns; Funeral at Airport

LD262120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Following the dastardly attack by U.S. helicopters on a defenseless Iranian commercial ship, the *Iran-Ajr*, last Monday night in international waters, 26 members of the crew, who had been enslaved by the U.S. Navy for 5 days and nights, returned to our country via Oman. They arrived in Tehran on Saturday evening. At Mehrabad Airport they were welcomed by military and civil officials.

A Central News Unit correspondent reports: The funeral of the three members of the ship's crew who had been martyred by the U.S. mercenaries was held at the airport. During the ceremony, which was attended by domestic and foreign correspondents, one of the wounded described the incident to correspondents. He said: At 2330 last Monday, a number of helicopters suddenly and savagely attacked our ship, which had no defensive weapons. We were sailing on board a commerical and supply ship and were attacked from all sides by several rockets and bullets. Because of these attacks we were forced to abandon ship. The ship was then heavily damaged. For some time we were in the water near the ship, until we were surrounded by helicopters. We were then transferred to a U.S. battleship. The Americans took us below decks, tied our hands with wire and savagely imprisoned us on board.

Crew on U.S. Attack, Treatment

LD271037 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 27, IRNA—Twenty-six crew members of the Iranian ship *Iran Ajr* at the custody of Americans since Monday and bodies of another three arrived at Tehran Mehrabad Airport here Saturday night. Eight of them have sustained injuries in the US gunship helicopter attack on the Iranian ship Mondav.

Ranking officials stood by and a military brass band played a funeral tune as the coffins of the martyred Iranians were brought out of the aircraft. Nearby a large group of people among them families of the crew members invoked the wrath of God upon the US Government chanting 'Persian Gulf will be Reagan's own grave'. Foreign reporters and photographers were at the scene to cover to file reports.

The captain of the Iranian vessel, Farsh-Chian, who has sustained injuries to his chest said to reporters that the *Iran Ajr* was on a routine voyage at the Persian Gulf and transporting non-military supplies when it was hit by the US choppers.

He said the Iranian ship was shelled for three hours uninterruptedly from several points at the high seas. He said in the wake of the attack crew members jumped onto lifeboats and sailed clear of the ship while the American choppers continued to fly overhead.

On the morning after, he said, the Americans transferred the remaining crew members of the wrecked ship on board a U.S. ship where they remained under close watch of armed men.

The pilot of the Iranian ship said that four US choppers opened fire on the ship without a forewarning, while seven others hovered overhead.

Crew member NCO 'Ali Rabi'zadeh told reporters that their captors had behaved as victorious wartime soldiers. He said for political propaganda purposes the Americans had offered to give crew members political asylum but that they met with the negative response of the Iranians.

Lieutenant Mohammad Reza Ismailzadeh said that their captors would not let them say their daily prayers or communicate with each other, and that often they would needlessly hold them up when they wanted to go to bathroom.

He said the U.S. claims that the ship was carrying mines was 'ridiculous' since basically the Iranian ship was not worthy of performing such operations or engaging in other military or defensive operations. He added that the Americans tried to hold a theatrical press conference on board their ship but that the Iranians sensing their purpose firmly declined to do so.

The crew members of the ship presented papers attesting to the registration of *Iran Ajr* and her other specifications. Officials of Iran Shipping Company and of ports

and shipping organisation told reporters [words indistinct] of the 'Shipping Company of the Islamic Republic of Iran.'

Crew Members Interviewed

NC270849 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Interview with two unidentified crew members of the *Iran-Ajr* by an unidentified correspondent from the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran; date and place not given—recorded]

[Summary from poor reception] [First crew member] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With blessings on the martyrs of the *Iran-Ajr*. We were transporting consignments from one of the southern ports when at around midnight, on Monday, the incident took place. We were in international waters and moving toward our destination as usual. Suddenly, we were being attacked on all sides. Machineguns, missiles, and rockets were fired at us. Our ship was a simple supply vessel transporting goods. Obviously, when we became the target of the cowardly attack, we were no match. We had no choice but to defend ourselves against the enemy onslaught.

[Second crew member] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I was the commanding officer of the *Iran-Ajr*. At 1110 hours, we saw the 11 U.S. helicopters poised for attack. They started shooting at us. They fired 6 rockets at our ship from the hull to the (?starboard). They fired at least 10,000 shots at us. Our very small, 55 meter-long vessel is a cargo vessel. The ship sustained serious damage by approximately 1400 hours. Some of the crew were injured, some were martyred. The captain was wounded. He ordered us to abandon ship and we lowered out boats.

[Correspondent] What was their attitude toward you during your confinement?

[Crew member] The Americans brought this calamity on us. They bound us so that we could not move. We could not cleanse ourselves nor could we offer our prayers. They treated us rudely. The U.S. Marines even kicked us in the back.

Musavi Warns United States' 'Lackeys'

LD261827 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA—The great satan (U.S.) will receive such a decisive blow for its mischievous acts in the Persian Gulf that all its regional lackeys will regret that they had better relied on Islam and their peoples rather than the Washington's protection, warned Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here today.

Speaking to a group of Iraqi prisoners of war at a POW camp here, Premier Hoseyn Musavi stressed "At present we see Saddam's (Husayn) supporters conspiring to defeat the revolution and force our nation into a compromise through their political support for Iraq."

"But", the premier noted, "the Iranian people will stand firmly to the last drop of their blood in the fight with the enemies of the Islamic Revolution who will eventually suffer defeat."

The premier recalled that Saddam who chanted so-called progressive slogans in the initial days of his war against Iran has now taken shelter behind the warships of the arch-imperialist the U.S., vainly hoping to escape his doomed fate.

The Islamic Republic will continue its courageous defense in the region and throughout the world until the aggressor Saddam is brought to a trial and punished, vowed the premier.

Pointing to the danger posed to big powers by the global Islamic movement, Musavi said that colonial powers imposed the war on Iran in a futile bid to defeat the Islamic revolution and prevent it from spreading to other parts of the region.

Musavi pointed [out] that by tearing up the 1975 Algiers Accord and sending his army across the borders, Saddam Husayn started his aggression on Iran on September 22, 1980 and dreamt of celebrating victory within a week at Ahvaz (capital of Khuzestan Province which the Ba'thists failed to reach). He (Saddam) vainly thought of defeating the revolution with the arms and petro-dollars provided by big powers and regional reaction, added the premier.

Noted the premier that now when Iran has entered the eighth year of the Iraqi-imposed war, all hopes of Saddam and his supporters have been dashed and the Islamic Revolution has not only not been defeated but is conveying its message to the Muslim world more strongly and more effectively than ever before.

Musavi Message Opens Gulf War Seminar

LD261155 Tehran IRNA in English 1100 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Bandar-e Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Sept. 26, IRNA—A two day seminar on 'Persian Gulf and imposed war' opened here Thursday with a message from Prime minister Hoseyn Musavi in which it was stressed that the Islamic revolution is passing through one of the most critical juncture.

The message said that under present circumstances the responsibility of the people is to "break the chest of paper tigers." The U.S. prime minister's message said, had come to the region to prove that it is not a 'cardboard cavalier', a lie which should be rejected.

The Islamic Revolution, Musavi's message noted, motivated regional nations and Muslims in Islamic states to create new movements against their ruling governments, confronting the superpowers, Eastern and Western powers with an "unidentified" force.

Addressing the seminar, Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi said that president of imperialism [as received] in the Persian Gulf was an indication to the power of the Islamic Republic.

He said that presence of foreign forces in regional waters was aimed at annihilating Islam and the Islamic revolution, and plunder of the wealth of Muslim countries.

Mohtashami stressed that the U.S. did not despatch forces to the Persian Gulf to preserve navigation in this waterway but rather to create tension.

The interior minister said that if the U.S. and other superpowers were fought off in the Persian Gulf, there was no need for other nations to fight the allies of the Americans elsewhere in the world.

Mohtashemi Says Tribes To Protect Borders

LD261119 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Interior Minister Mr Mohtashami is visiting Bandar-e 'Abbas. In an interview with journalists he announced: In order to extend internal security and the security of sea and land borders, the tribes of the country will be armed so that they may combat smugglers, outlaws, and counterrevolutionaries side by side with the security forces.

In connection with the arming of the tribes, the interior minister stated: In addition to the gendarmerie and Islamic revolution committees, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps will also have a role in this project. Furthermore, by stressing the alertness of security forces in maintaining security in the country and on the borders, he referred to the fundamental role of the people in identifying and destroying outlaws and counterrevolutionaries, and said: The presence of the people on the scene has been of great and effective help to the security forces.

In connection with the obstructiveness of the regime ruling over the Hijaz with regard to delivering the bodies of pilgrims who were martyred by the police of the Al Sa'ud regime on Bloody Friday in Mecca, Mr Mohtashemi said: At the moment we have 59 martyrs and 2 prisoners in the Hijaz. Unfortunately, the regime of the Hijaz, contrary to its previous declaration, is using various devices to prevent the families of these martyrs from going to holy Mecca in order to identify the martyrs.

A report by the *Islamic Republic News Agency* states that the interior minister also referred to the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf and said: The buildup of the U.S. and NATO vessels in the Persian Gulf underlines the power of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the world scene. The attacks by U.S. ships on Iran's cargo ship springs from the United States' political weakness. This move demonstrates the mistaken assessments of the United States of America with regard to the strength of the Islamic Republic and of the fighter who are in a state of preparedness in the Persian Gulf.

Montazeri Telephones Khamene'i on UN Speech

LD251157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] In the wake of the speech made by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i at the 42d session of the UN General Assembly and his return to the Islamic homeland, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri this morning telephoned Mr Khamene'i. Referring to the positive results of the president's profound speech at the United Nations, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: Your trip and your remarks at the UN General Assembly revealed to the world and to the nations of the world the fact that our revolution and our nation have been victimized. Moreover, your speech revealed the fact that the Iraqi Ba'th party is the aggressor. I hope that, despite the plots of the enemies of Islam and of the revolution, this trip has blessings for our nation.

Khamene'i Sermon on UN Speech, U.S. Attack

LD251357 Tehran IRNA in English 1348 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA—President Khamene'i said here Friday that his presence at the UN this week had helped the message of the Islamic Revolution reach the peoples of the world despite the will of the U.S. He said during his stay in New York the U.S. hit an Iranian cargo ship to deflect world attention from the UN, but that the scheme backfired on the United States itself.

Khamene'i who was sermonizing to a multitudinous group of worshippers at the compounds of Tehran University here during the congregational prayers said the U.S. had attacked a cargo ship at the Persian Gulf to justify the presence of U.S. forces at the Persian Gulf, to show off its military capacity to the world people and to overshadow Khamene'i's speech at the United Nations, but that it fell short of achieving either of its goals.

President Khamene'i said if the Americans—as they claim—had really detected a ship in the very act of laying mines at the Persian Gulf they could have prevented it from doing so and could have captured its crew members without having to bomb them. He said even if the Iranian vessel had been carrying weapons and munitions the American forces had no right to attack it at the Persian Gulf.

Khamene'i said while in New York he had raised the same questions to reporters and that no one seemed to offer any reply to it.

He said seven years since the imposition of an unwanted war upon Iran many historical facts had been known world wide. He said before the outbreak of the war the ruling regime in Iraq claimed to be anti-imperialistic, but that the post-war developments proved otherwise, that the United States initially claimed to be neutral but that its claim was later on disproved and that the British Government and other governments involved in the conflict eventually became infamous for their secretive schemes against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

President Khamene'i lauded student members of the Muslim students associations in the United States many of whom had come to New York to welcome him, and he referred to them as pious people living pious lives in a society (America) marked by all sorts of moral debasement and corruption.

In contrast he deplored the status of members of Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) who he said have been beguiled, cheated, and misled by a handful few hypocrites.

Khamene'i said the post-war [as received] developments which culminated in his presence at the United Nations earlier this week proved that the United States has all along been siding with the Iraqi regime in its war with Iran. He said despite its military power U.S. behaviour towards the Islamic Republic betrays its total fear of Iran's revolutionary people.

Towards the end of his second sermon President Khamene'i expressed hope that Iran's Muslim people would stand firm on their ground and inflict the final blows 'on the rotting corpse of the world oppression.'

Tehran Details Sermon

LD251608 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Second Friday sermon delivered by President 'Ali Khamene'i at Tehran University on 25 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] I shall first give a short report to this gathering on my trip [to the UN General Assembly. The trip was motivated by our decision to fight the distortions, on a worldwide scale, against the shining face of the Islamic Republic and of our dear revolution. That was the basis of our work on the trip.

As you all know, thank God, and as you all can analyze, global arrogance does not show its main capabilities in the area of money and force; rather, it is in the area of distorting facts that global arrogance brings its main force to bear, and also the highest level of its wickedness. This is one of the tricks of arrogance through the years. If the bullies and the powerful are able to buy somebody with money, they will do so. [passage omitted]

If money fails to capture the enemy, then global arrogance uses force. The enemies threaten, use pressure, wear you down, deliver blows, assault, encircle a nation, and use economic pressure in order to bring a militant gathering, a militant nation, or a leader or personalities to their knees. In this way, they force on them such things as compromise, moderation, and surrender. Unfortunately, this is an effective weapon in the world. We see some countries in the world which were not forced to compromise for material gains but out of fear. [passage omitted]

Now if both money and force are ineffective, what will arrogance do? If they failed to defeat somebody by intimidation, by buying him out, they have no alternataive but to paint a bad portrait of him in the world. This is what has happened repeatedly through the years. [passage omitted]

This is what—in the jargon of our culture and of our country today—is called character assassination. This is what is happening against our revolution. For 8 years our revolution has continuously been subjected to character assassination. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately, in many parts of the world their distorted accounts of our revolution have found buyers. If you see that nations all over the world love the Islamic Republic and shout slogans and raise their clenched fists, if you see them providing financial help—I will mention examples of such help later, especially from Americans, by the Muslims living in the United States, and U.S. Muslims—all this comes despite the bad propaganda hurled against our revolution. This is the natural, inherent glory of our revolution. [passage omitted]

In most Western countries, Europe, and the United States, they want to distort the face of the Islamic Republic. We must—this is necessary and the imam has always said so—show the glorious face of the Islamic Republic to the eyes of the nations.

This is our duty and we have done so on many occasions in various ways, but the highest pulpit in the world is the pulpit of the United Nations. The platform with the greatest range and the highest capacity is the UN General Assembly. Therefore, we said we must go to the United Nations and introduce the revolution and regime of the Islamic Republic, along with our aspirations, our proposals, and our principles. They call us fundamentalist; they think this term is a curse. If fundamentalism means a tendency toward a set of principles, then we take pride in that. We hold fast to our principles, and will never abandon them. [passage omitted]

The speech at the UN General Assembly lasted over an hour, but the continuation of the speech, and its journey to people's hearts and ears, is not a matter of hours, days, months, or years. This message, which is the cry of the Islamic Republic and the message of our revolution will be repeated through the ages in all countries and among all nations, whether arrogance likes it or not. [shouts of "God is great"]

Therefore, the main objective was to state the facts, and with God's help, this was done. If they could in any way have prevented the speech from being made, they would have done so. If they could have stopped these words from being heard, they would have done so. If they could prevent it now, they would do it. However, they can no longer do so.

What had to be said was said, and was heard, and will be heard by all nations. In their ignorance, they attacked the cargo ship in the Persian Gulf—I will discuss the objectives they wanted to achieve by doing so. This was counterproductive and worked against their objectives. As a result, it made the trip more outstanding in the world and made our presence in the United Nations more questionable [as heard].

The nations of the world want to know what the truth is and the fact that they want to know the truth is good for us because we have an answer and will give it.

The Islamic Republic is a principled order, an order which relies on principles and on the intellectual basis of logic which is resolutely pursued . This is a divine order. We are not ashamed to say to this world that we are servants of God and believers in God's religion. We are proud and hold our heads high because we are servants of God. However, the world's statesmen and rulers and authorities are servants of their inner selves, of their lust, or even servants of other feeble humans just like themselves. We conveyed the message of the religion, saying that we believe. Briefly, we explained the history of our resisting and patient nation, a proud nation, in the face of the misdeeds against it. We presented our indictment and message to the world. Islam has messages to bring in this field and this was one of them. You have heard the speech and our media also broadcast it. This was the main objective and task. However, there are a series of side issues. These will be fulfilled successfully thanks to God's blessings.

First, the United States tried to (?separate) the question of the UN secretary general's visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran from that of Resolution No 598 on the Persian Gulf problem. The United States has been trying for some time now to justify its presence in the Persian Gulf and its bullying so that it may isolate the Islamic Republic of Iran and force it into (?submission) by bringing world pressure to bear. The United States is trying to achieve this. The subtlety with which the Islamic Republic conducted its diplomacy has prevented hostile actions. The secretary general came to Tehran and spoke with the Islamic Republic authorities. They wanted us to say clearly whether or not we agreed with Resolution No 598. We said no. We said we had issues to discuss and we had acceptable and logical points worthy of discussion, and that this was a matter to be covered so that the Security Council would take note. The issue was discussed—the issue of punishing the aggressor, not just acknowledging the aggressor, as some parties tried to suggest regarding the above points which was made mandatory by all Islamic Republic officials, unanimously and clearly, an important victory—of how to tackle the question of announcing and acknowledging the aggressor. No! This move was not right. The issue of announcing the aggressor is a prelude to punishing the aggressor and punishing the war-propagating regime, not merely just naming the aggressor. It is not sufficient for the Security Council to announce this, but a fair tribunal has to be established to punish the aggressor.

We mentioned this point at the UN General Assembly, saying that we insist on this point and that if the conditions are fulfilled, we are not warmongers nor wish to continue the war. We are not fanning the flames of war. We are the oppressed party that has made many efforts to dispel the oppression in a resolute, steadfast, and firm manner by forcefully bringing oppression back to the oppressor. [chants] Therefore, attempts by the UN secretary general could provide an opening. He went to voice our views at the United Nations and we learned that there was difference of opinion inside the Security Council.

The United States attempted to completely separate the issues of the secretary general's visit from the move it had initiated; it intended to consider this as null and void. [sentence as heard] Of course, Reagan delivered a speech at the UN General Assembly, stating his support for the UN general secretary's efforts and mission. In reality, he meant just the opposite. We saw that the Americans intended to ignore the secretary general's visit completely by isolating his efforts from the immense issue of the Persian Gulf. In this way, they could impose their own views and desires. Therefore, we declared that the secretary general could pursue his mission. By the grace of God, our meeting and discussions with the UN secretary general and with the president of the Security Council, as well as our comments for the press and other world media, resulted in the secretary general's belief that he could continue with his mission.

In the last hours of my stay [in New York], we had a meeting and he expressed the hope that he could achieve more results and could carry out the tasks with which he had been charged. Naturally, nobody has the clarity of view that we have regarding the aggressive U.S. policies, because everybody carries out missions in a specific manner. However, we are pleased that the secretary general can continue his mission without yielding to the pressure the United States intends to apply [words indistinct] on the Security Council and on the United Nations, as well as the secretary general may be fruitless. We also pointed out the fact that the Security Council is not composed of only 5 permanent members, but has 15 members. The permanent members comprise only a third of the votes, while others have more votes. Some votes are much closer to ours. This became aware of this.

We also pointed out that the Security Council should consider the views held by other members of the Security Council, and not just regard itself as the domain of the five members or of the United States.

Despite the limited nature of the meetings which was a result of my limited stay, we pointed out that we will not yield to threats and pressures and that the U.S. atmosphere of extortion and pressure will have no effect on us and our nation. Those who spoke to us conveyed the U.S. position, directly and indirectly, but we responded by saying that we were aware of U.S. objectives and goals and that we have our own views. We were speaking in fairness; we were resolutely standing by our words without any adverse effects—positive effects from a U.S. point of view—on the morale and feeling of our nation borne out of the U.S. presence and also of their saber-rattling. We also said that our nation will become more courageous, more resistant, and more motivated in confronting the Americans, and that we will undoubtedly return the blows to the United States.

The point I would like to make to the dear brothers and sisters who are taking part in the prayers, as I said in the interview, is that a number of Muslim ulema and clergymen from various cities in the United States came to New York to meet us. We spoke to them. They made extremely interesting comments about you, the people, about our dear leader, and about the Islamic Republic system. They said: We see the manifestation of the Islamic system and the hopes of Islam in you and your nation. [passage omitted repeating the praises and declarations of support and thanking the people for their prayers]

The incident that occured in the Persian Gulf during our short stay in New York is noteworthy. It shows the anxiety of these so-called mighty forces. Apparently, the Americans had three motives behind this action. In my opinion, they failed in all three. The first was to justify their presence in the Persian Gulf. The presence of the U.S. fleet, the number of troops and thousands of men in this remote and dangerous region is difficult to accept for the American nation. The people ask: Why do we have a military presence and why are we warmongering in a part of the world that does not affect us and is so far from our country? The American people do not accept this presence and do not consent to it. The Reagan administration is forced to somehow justify this action. This incident was meant to show the people what the Persian Gulf situation is, i.e., if we [Americans] are not there, they [Iranians] mine the Gulf, endangering the waterways. We must be there to catch them red-handed and prevent these waterways from being mined. This was one of the U.S. aims.

Of course, it was an obvious one, because during the past few days there were some people in the United States who believed that Mr Reagan had done the right thing, by acting decisively. However, there were many who were very worried that this action would start a war between Iran and the United States, sending their youths to their deaths. Their wise men and thinkers believed that this action was a mistake; they clearly stated this. Therefore, the U.S. goal was definitely not realized. Not only did it not justify the U.S. presence, on the contrary, it created another objection, another question in the minds of the people: Why did you do this? They kept showing these mines on various television channels trying to tell the people how important the incident was.

Their second aim was to show decisiveness before their own people. One of the things that the American people expect of their government is decisiveness, strength, and pride. A myth has been told by U.S. leaders to the people for dozens of years. It says: You are the strongest, the best, the biggest nation, the masters of the earth. There have been repeated declarations of supremacy. If they think they are weak anywhere in the world, they become upset and unhappy. Therefore, a leader who displays the strength and power of the United States is desirable to them. This is what they tried to achieve by that action, to show how strong they are. However, in our opinion, this goal was not attained either, because, first, they said this ship was a combat speed boat; it was later discovered to be an unarmed ship whose crew had no weapons. Even if they had mines, mines cannot be used to fight others. Therefore, it is not all that heroic to attack the unarmed crew of a ship with helicopters and these tattooed U.S. Navy personnel. It did not show any decisiveness or bravery on the part of the U.S. Government. They failed. In our opinion, their aim was not achieved.

The third aim was to upstage our trip with another incident and the remarks made in the speech, and to reduce the impact of the remarks. They thought that while we are talking about various matters—of course, they perhaps knew what we were going to say because the incident took place before the speech, and I referred to it in the speech—they could discredit our remarks by creating this incident and by showing the Islamic Republic as a system that lays mines for unarmed ships in the Persian Gulf; or by creating a hue and cry in order to upstage my trip and remarks. This, too, was totally unsuccessful. This incident attracted everybody's attention to our presence at the United Nations and in New York. They asked us questions about the incident to which we responded. In return, we asked questions of the correspondents. We said the U.S. Government must answer these questions. All this was published in the media in various forms over there. Precisely the opposite result was achieved for the U.S Government.

Our understanding of the incident is that the U.S. Government managed to achieve another defeat all by itself. For some time now, one has been able to see only the defeat of U.S. policies. Whatever they do, because it is coupled with pride, with a sense of power, and the intention to bully, God Almighty turns it around and wounds their pride. This incident was a case in point. Today, the U.S. Government has no answer for what it has done.

We raised three simple questions—of course, there are many more questions—to those who were talking to us. We said: Ask the U.S. government these questions, obtain the answers, and convince yourselves of these answers. First, how can they prove that that ship was carrying mines? Was it written on the mines that they belonged to an Iranian ship? Mines can be transferred from any place to any other place. They can be brought over from U.S. warships to be placed on the commercial vessel *Iran-Ajr*. What proof do you have that these mines were loaded at Iranian ports and were to be laid in the Persian Gulf? That is one question.

The second question is: What justification do you have for attacking any ship that carries weapons, or ammunition, such as mines, in the Persian Gulf? What right do you have to attack that ship? There are several ships in the Persian Gulf which carry arms and ammunition for various countries. Some are for countries that are at war; some are for countries not at war; some belong to the United States; some belong to Iraq; some belong to Kuwait, and some to other countries. Does the fact that a ship sailing in the Persian Gulf, in international waters,

and carrying arms or ammunition, give you the right to capture that ship? Do we and other countries have the right to do the same, or is this solely your right, as you are bullies? There is no answer to that. How can the United States give itself the right to attack a ship carrying weapons? If the U.S. ships here, which carry weapons, are attacked by other countries, then that too would be justified. They have no answer to this either.

Another question is: If there were mines or weapons aboard that ship, and we wanted to capture it, or, as you said, to prevent mines being laid, you could have refrained from firing shots and killing people. You could have surrounded the ship, caught them red-handed, and say: You had mines and were intending to lay them. Then, you could have sent those people back to their country. Why kill people? Why attack that ship? Why did you murder those people? Why did you injure some of them? It was said that some of the injured are in critical condition. By what right did you commit these killings? The American nation and U.S. public opinion are very sensitive about this issue. The Americans have no answer for this, either. World public opinion will ask the United States about such matters. Those who think that they have been able to deceive world public opinion with propaganda will be exposed. It will become clear that they have no answer. Whichever way you look at the incident, the United States is guilty.

I told them that today the bodies of our children are being returned to Iran. They heard this, of course. We are proud that we have voluntarily accepted martyrdom. Those families who have given martyrs are very much respected by the Iranian nation; they themselves are proud that they have martyrs. However, in the days to come, when you return American youths, the American nation will turn on you and say: It was you who started it. Why did you? The U.S. regime has no answer for its people. They started the incident in an abominable and feeble way. The Americans sent us a message by way of the secretary general that we do not want you to consider the Persian Gulf incident as an extension of other incidents relating to the war. Consider this matter closed.

You, who are so scared of the consequences of the incident, why did you take such action? You, who do not have the courage, the heart to stand up to a martyr-nurturing, heroic and danger-seeking nation, why did you do something that scared you? Our nation has not retreated in the face of your threats and bullying. Its resolve will not be weakened in the slightest by this incident and any other similar incident. Moreover, this nation will definitely deal a retaliatory blow to you.

Dear brothers and sisters. I want to say something else. Many of the facts they tried to cover-up have been brought to light. The Iraqi regime wanted to put on a revolutionary guise; it was exposed. It wanted to put on an anti-arrogant guise; it was found out. The United States wanted to put on a show of neutrality in the war; it was exposed. The United States wanted to say it wanted peace in the region; it was exposed. All these incidents have revealed the facts to the world's people. Some European countries, such as Britain, tried to pretend that they are independent of the United States; they have been exposed. They tried a show of strength and bravery; they were exposed with their subsequent comments. All the cover-ups of the war incidents were exposed and the secrets revealed.

There are two secrets important to us. The first is that world arrogance is prepared to stand behind Iraq wholeheartedly and defend the aggressor Iraqi regime against the Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to prevent Islam from being victorious. We have always said this and they have denied it. They said: We are not behind Iraq. They tried to hide this fact, but it was revealed to you, to the nation. All those behind the Iraqi regime were exposed; they are all in the U.S. camp, those miserable hypocrites. Their suffering made their friends cry during our trip. They had gathered to shout slogans or say things against us. [passage on the hypocrites being misguided omitted]

The fact became clear to the Iranian nation that the United States is behind the Iraqi regime. Of course, this was clear to us, the Iranian nation knew this, but it became even more clear today. This is a secret that has come to light. Moreover, the United States and world arrogance, with all its show of strength, its threats, and arrogant superpower appearance, is scared of our revolutionary nation deep down inside. [chants] This is thanks to the presence of you, the people, on the scene, and to your unity. We must not allow arrogance to entertain the lightest hope of attaining its evil goals in the region. We must demonstrate more and more this power of our fighting and heroic people. [passage omitted]

With the utmost strength, resistance and alertness, the nation must fill the trenches, the fronts, and mobilization centers, and declare its readiness. The nation must show that it is prepared for defense, and God willing, our fighters will deal fatal blows to the defeated, despondent Iraqi forces. The tragedy will be over with the crushing of the aggressor forces. Arrogance will no longer have any hopes or designs on this region. [Koranic verse omitted]

Further on Velayati Activities at UN

Holds Talks With Counterparts

NC260614 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Summary from poor reception] Our country's foreign minister, Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who is currently in New York to participate in the 42d annual UN General Assembly session, conducted talks with the foreign ministers of Turkey, Hungary, Sri Lanka, the GDR, the PDRY, and Cyprus at UN Headquarters. The talks focused on important regional issues, including recent developments in the Persian Gulf, the UN Security Council resolution, the UN secretary general's visit to the region, in addition to bilateral cooperation in the economic, commercial, and cultural fields.

During these meetings, our country's foreign minister explained the turbulent situation in the Persian Gulf and the foreign forces' role in escalating tension there. He said: The United States is dragging its allies into the region in order to justify itself on the international level. The Islamic Republic of Iran's stance that "the aggressor must be identified is a just means for resolving the problem."

The foreign ministers of the abovementioned countries expressed their willingness to broaden ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran in the form of economic and cultural exchanges.

Meets With Foreign Ministers

NC260746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Our country's foreign minister, Mr Velayati, who is currently in New York to participate in the 42d annual UN General Assembly session, conferred with the foreign ministers of Poland, Mozambique, Somalia, Guinea, Pakistan, Greece, Bangladesh, and the UAE.

According to a Central News Unit report, in Mr Velayati's meeting with the Polish foreign minister, the latter referred to the latest UN Security Council resolution on the Iran-Iraq war, and said: We oppose all kinds of unilateral solutions. Therefore, we should seek a just way of protecting the interests of the revolutionary Iranian people. He said: In view of the results of the UN secretary general's visit to Tehran, we do not see the need for another resolution.

In the meeting between the foreign ministers of Iran and Mozambique, issues pertaining to the Persian Gulf and the outcome of the UN secretary general's visit to Tehran were reviewed. During this meeting, the Mozambican foreign minister explained the current problems in South Africa. The discussion also touched upon issues relating to bilateral relations and the Mozambican foreign minister's visit to Tehran.

Commenting of the UN Security Council resolution during his meeting with Mr Velayati, Mr Rashid 'Abdallah [UAE minister of state for foreign affairs] said: Many countries believe that the arrival of U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf region contravenes this resolution, which clearly stipulates that all countries should refrain from provocative actions that might escalate tension there.

According to this report, the Somalian foreign minister also met Dr Velayati. During that meeting, the two officials discussed the expansion and strengthening of bilateral relations, as well as regional issues. The Somalian minister said: In my opinion, there is no hindrance to expanding relations between two fraternal Muslim countries. Relations between our two countries should be improved; we are fully prepared in this regard.

In the meeting between the foreign minister of Guinea and our country's foreign minister, Mr Velayati, a review was made of bilateral ties and methods to increase them. The two ministers also examined ways to increase mutual cooperation.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan also met with Mr Velayati yesterday. They examined regional issues, the imposed war, and the Afghan situation. In this meeting, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan hailed our president's speech at the UN General Assembly and said: His speech was succinct but complete. It represented the logic and wisdom that motivates the Islamic revolution which, unfortunately, has been derided in the West.

Issues of mutual interest, the turbulent Persian Gulf situation, and international developments were among the topics discussed between Mr Velayati and the Greek foreign minister. The latter recalled that constructive talks had been held earlier in Tehran and expressed his government's view that these relations should be expanded. The Greek foreign minister expressed the hope to see our foreign minister in Athens soon. He said: Our stance on the Persian Gulf situation is clear and definite: We are opposed to the presence of military forces there because we believe such a presence only exacerbates tension. We therefore refrained from dispatching any warships to the Persian Gulf. He added: The tense situation in the Persian Gulf is a source of extreme concern.

Bilateral ties as well as mutual cooperation on the international level, especially with regard to the ICO, were assessed during the meeting between the Bangladeshi foreign minister and Mr Velayati. The two officials exchanged views on the latest regional developments and on the issues debated at the UN Security Council.

Meets E. European, African Delegates

LD261850 Tehran IRNA in English 1711 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26 IRNA—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati exchanged views with his Romanian counterpart Ioan Totu on issues of mutual interest and expansion of bilateral economic, cultural and political ties as well as international matters, at the U.N. Friday. The Romanian official termed presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf as the core of tension in the region and called for withdrawal of big powers from the region. Totu extended an invitation to the Iranian minister to visit Bucharest.

In another development, Yugoslavian Foreign Minister Raif Dizdarevic in his Friday's meeting with Velayati said that permanent members of the U.N. Security Council had called on the secretary general Javier Perez de Cuellar to continue his activities. In response, Velayati announced the Islamic Republic's preparedness to cooperate with Perez de Cuellar concerning justice and legitimate conditions of Iran, vis-a-vis the Iraqi imposed war. The U.S. is vainly attempting to impose its views on the Security Council members, he added.

Meanwhile, Ethiopian Minister of Foreign Affairs Berhanu Bayeh met Velayati at the U.N. and announced his country's readiness to improve the two countries' relations.

Velayati's Albanian counterpart Reis Malile lauded Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i's speech in the U.N. General Assembly and said the Albanian nation is always beside the Iranian people. The two sides studied Tehran-Tirana relations at the meeting in the U.N. where Velayati invited his Albanian counterpart to visit Iran.

Congo's minister of foreign affairs Antoine Ndinga-Oba expressed hope in his meeting with Velayati that the Security Council members could overcome the pressures and take fair decisions. Ndinga-Oba whose country is now a member of the U.N. Security Council also lauded Iran's just stance.

Declines Meeting With UK's Howe

LD261916 Tehran IRNA in English 1822 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] London, Sept. 25 IRNA—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati has turned down attempts from the British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe to see him at the United Nations (U.N.).

According to the Foreign Office, Howe originally sought a meeting with Velayati on Tuesday when both ministers were attending the opening days of the U.N. General Assembly, but his request was declined. "The Iranians said they didn't have time," the spokesman told IRNA.

The purpose of the meeting, he maintained, was to raise the attack on the British-flagged tanker *Gentle Breeze* last Monday.

According to a reports from the U.N. British diplomats continued to press for a meeting and Howe was hoping to see Velayati before Friday's meeting between the five permanent members of the Security Council and Secretary general Perez de Cuellar.

Except for *The Times*, British newspapers and radio and television stations have kept silent on Iran's attitude towards Britain at the U.N.

10 Drug Smugglers Executed 26 Sep

LD262034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Ten drug-smugglers have been sentenced to execution by courts of the Tehran Islamic Revolution prosecutor's antidrug campaign office. The sentences were carried out this morning for three persons in Gorgan, three persons in Mashhad, and four persons in Tehran.

SAIRI Pledges To Confront U.S. Marines

LD251228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Following the recent mischief in the Persian Gulf by global arrogance under the leadership of the criminal United States, as well as the very important and decisive speech by the President of Islamic Iran at the 42d UN General Assembly, the military wing of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI] sent the following telegram to President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i:

Your very important and historic speech at the center of corruption and conspiracy of the great satan—a speech which explained how the oppressed nations of the world have become victims—has made the hearts of all Muslims and the oppressed happy. There is no doubt that your detailed and fateful speech—made with full courage at the assembly of the world countries—has made world public opinion aware of the righteousness of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the fact that the oppressed are victimized. The leaders of infidelity, in view of the just and right stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have had to hasten to save world arrogances's pawn in the region, that is, the soon to be defeated Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq.

The criminal United States, which is constantly looking for a chance for adventurism in the region, committed a new crime and attacked an Iranian cargo ship in an attempt to acquire a propaganda coup and to overshadow the visit of the high-ranking delegation of the Islamic Republic to the United Nations.

The military wing of the SAIRI, while condemning this foolish act by the head of the Black House, declares the readiness of its forces to confront the U.S. Marines in the Persian Gulf region and to perform their martyr-seeking operations.

We again declare to all the governments of the world that we will continue our merciless crusade until the collapse of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling over Iraq. Moreover, we remind them that a just and lasting peace can only be achieved with the elimination of the infidel leaders of the Ba'th Party of Iraq and the collapse of blood-sucker Saddam Husayn.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Iraqi Industrial Units Bombarded

LD251501 Tehran IRNA in English 1451 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Sept. 25, IRNA—Iraqi oil and industrial installations in the cities of Zurbatiyah, Mandali and Banmil were under long range artillery fire of the Iranian combatants Thursday and Friday in retaliation for the mischievous acts of the Baghdad regime.

The Iraqi warplanes bombed Sumar and Tangab regions twice Thursday, but Iranian anti-aircraft fire thwarted activities of enemy helicopters in western operational theaters.

During the period Muslim forces destroyed two Iraqi munitions dumps, five individual bunkers, three bugging and a communications post. Iraqi casualties in the western fronts were reported 19.

Communique No 2,970

LD251616 Tehran IRNA in English 1537 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA—Al-Sulaymaniyah power generator and Dujaylah match factory and oil centers, all in northeastern Iraq, were among the installations which sufferred considerable losses as a result of 24-hour-long shelling of Iranian combatants Wednesday and Thursday, the 2970th Joint Staff Communique reported here today.

The communique added exchange of heavy artillery fire continued sporadically in all fronts, with enemy troops sustaining casualties and losses in each theater.

In the northwestern operational region an Iraqi munitions depot, several light and heavy vehicles as well as parts of enemy frontline positions were set afire by Iranian forces who inflicted some casualties on the Iraqi troops.

An Iraqi patrol unit was located and shelled by Iranian combatants in Sumar operational theater Thursday night which fled from the area leaving behind some casualties.

In Maymak and outposts opposite to it, Nahr 'Anbar and Chazzabeh operational regions Iranian combatants halted engineering activities and movements of the Iraqi motorized columns. Some 15 Iraqi gun emplacements and a command jeep were also destroyed and a group of enemy troops were killed and wounded when their positions were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces.

Iranian naval forces in addition to controlling movements of several Iraqi gunboats near Al-'Amayah and Al-Bakr platforms, searched five cargo ships and tankers in Strait of Hormuz Thursday, but allowed them to sail on since no suspicious cargo turned up on board, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Plane Downed in Southwest

LD251711 Tehran IRNA in English 1623 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA—An Iraqi warplane was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in a southwestern region at 10:45 hours local time (07:15 GMT) Friday, said Communique Number 2970 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces here today.

Communique No 2,971

LD261610 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA—As a reprisal against Iraqi air raids, Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed radar installations of the town of Rawanduz, northern Iraq, Saturday, inflicting substantial losses on them. The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing mission which took place at 10:25 GMT.

Announcing the above, the 2971st Joint Staff Communique reported here today that Iranian coastal artillery fire shelled Iraqi watchposts along its southern coasts Friday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops.

At least seven Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and two enemy munitions dumps, three vehicles, a mortar launcher and several gun emplacements were destroyed in a southern front by Iranian artillery fire yesterday.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces continued their battle with Iraqi troops in parts of the southern fronts Friday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying 10 emplacements of light and heavy weapons as well as a mortar launcher of theirs.

The artillery fire of Iran's Muslim combatants checked relocation activities of Iraqi troops in Sumar, Mehran and Zurbatiyah in the western sector yesterday. Six Iraqi civilians defected to Iranian Muslim combatants in a northwestern theater Thursday.

Iranian navy gunboats intercepted and inspected five cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Friday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied there was no Iraqi-destined cargo aboard them, concluded the communique.

Iraqi Air Raid Kills 10 in Khuzestan

LD261712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] In an attack today by aggressor aircraft of the warmongering regime of Iraq against Khuzestan Province, 10 of our compatriots were martyred and a number of others were wounded. As a result of this attack, an industrial uni,t as well as installations in a communications unit, were damaged.